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Rebecca Kohler in **metroVIEWS**

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CUTE FACES, STRAINED RESOURCES:
ALBERTA BREAKS ITS BIRTH RATE RECORD **metroNEWS**

Complaints up on cabs

STAMPEDE
Feedback campaign appears to be working

Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Taxi ridership was down around 12.8 per cent during this year's Calgary Stampede, while complaints shot up 50 per cent over 2014, according to city data.

Mario Henriques, the city's chief livery inspector, said one of the reasons complaints were so high was because of a bumper sticker campaign introduced in 2014 urging customers to let the city know about taxi service by calling 311.

"We've noticed that with all our complaint levels," said Henriques. "There has been, inside Stampede and outside of Stampede, an increase in complaint volume."

Rupinder Gill, president of Calgary United Cabs, said customers didn't have as long to wait when it came to taxi service during this year's Stampede.

"It was a little slower than the other years, but still it was OK," said Gill.

He added business has been so slow lately there aren't even enough places to park cabs during the day.

"We're starving now," he said. "Business is very slow."

He said taxi drivers don't want the city to release any more plates right now, as existing cabbies are already "hungry" for more customers.

Henriques said Calgarians are always encouraged to offer feedback on taxi service.

"We still want to push out the message to consumers to please call 311 if they do have a complaint," he said. "So from that perspective, it's working."

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IN BRIEF

Feds pledge \$582.9M to ring road project

The federal government announced Thursday it will contribute \$582.9 million toward the Southwest Calgary Ring Road project.

The money will come from the national infrastructure component of the New Building Canada Fund.

Jason Kenney, the federal minister of national defence and Conservative MP for Calgary Southeast, made the announcement alongside Alberta Transportation Minister and NDP MLA for Edmonton Highlands-Norwood, Brian Mason, who weeks earlier committed to completing the project within seven years. METRO

Airdrie RCMP charge man with human trafficking

A 25-year-old male from Airdrie has been charged after RCMP conducted a human trafficking investigation.

Evidence revealed a missing youth had been a victim of human trafficking by the male, according to police.

The RCMP will not be releasing the name of the accused in order to protect the interests of a witness under 18 years of age.

The suspect is in custody and has been charged with living on the avails of prostitution of a person under 18, assault and trafficking a person under 18 for the purpose of exploiting or facilitating exploitation.

He is due in court on Aug. 4. METRO

Zine to dispel myths about skate parks

SKATEBOARDING

Artists aim to engage communities with profiles



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Stop what you're doing, skaters — it's time to take a selfie.

By creating a zine — or inexpensive broadsheet print publication — the city and local artists Eric Moschopedis and Mia Rushton are looking to connect skaters with people who will soon see a skate park grace their community.

But before Moschopedis and Rushton can do that, they're asking skaters to take selfies, write a blurb about themselves and post their mini-bios to ericandmia.ca/skateparks.

After that, the artists will sketch the selfies and write about skateboarding culture, essentially breaking skater stereotypes by connecting two groups of people who might not have much in common, said Moschopedis, who is heading the zine with Rushton.

"The hope is that we will be dispelling mythology and putting names to faces," he said. "And at that point, it starts a conversation in the community about what skateboarding means."



A young skater takes a selfie at Shaw Millennium Park. ERIC MOSCHOPEDIS/CONTRIBUTED

The city commissioned both artists to complete the zine as part of its Skateboard Amenities Strategy, where the city saw a need to accommodate more than 35,000 skaters in Calgary.

About 10,000 to 45,000 zines will be sent to community members as soon as the new skate parks are complete.

The first batch will be delivered to Chinook Park, Kelvin

Grove and Eagle Ridge (September 2015), Southwood (October 2015) and Huntington Hills (October 2015), as soon as skate parks are constructed.

Moschopedis said he hopes the zines become an educational tool. "Our hope is that people will spend time looking through it, see profiles and learn more about skateboarding," he said.

Like baseball and soccer, it's

just as important to provide recreation opportunities to non-structured sports like skateboarding, said Sarah Iley, manager of culture with the city.

"We're excited about this art project because it helps to demonstrate that skateboard enthusiasts come in all ages, from many communities throughout the city, and work in a diverse professions," she said.

SNOWTEMPER

Clark upset over funding

Alberta Party Leader Greg Clark echoed Mayor Naheed Nenshi's frustration Thursday over the provincial government's rejection of Calgary's application for disaster funding related to last year's September snowstorm.

"Anyone who was in Calgary during the September snowstorm knows this was a disaster," Clark, the MLA for Calgary-Elbow, said in a statement. "The province should pay its share."

Clark went on to note the Disaster Recovery Program budget was "underspent" by \$413 million last year.

"There is more than enough room to provide support to cities when significant disasters occur," he said. "In addition to the \$413 (million) that went unspent on DRP there was \$200 million allocated to flood mitigation that was also not spent."

Municipal Affairs Minister Deron Bilous' press secretary noted it's not quite that simple, however.

"The funds that Mr. Clark would divert from 2013 flood recovery are part of multi-year budget to cover the full estimated costs of the flood, and it is not uncommon for costs to move between fiscal years depending on the time it takes to resolve claims," Shannon Greer told Metro in an email.

"There are still a number of unresolved DRP claims to be paid." ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO



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Tattoo-studio closures reach significant numbers in Calgary

SAFETY

Artists say closures a sign of regulation

Andrea Ross & Aaron Chatha
Metro

The story of tattoo safety in Alberta can best be told by examining its two main cities, where different tales emerge.

In one, the industry is getting safer and cleaner, while in the other, artists are calling for more enforcement.

Over the past five years, Alberta Health Services says 25 tattoo studios in Calgary and surrounding regions have been closed down by health officials, with nine of them forced to remain closed presently.

In both Edmonton and Calgary, artists are singling out “scratcher shops” — illegal, in-house studios — as a large scourge on their industry.

The two cities have a surprisingly similar number of tattoo studios that are known to AHS: 144 in Calgary and 141 in

Edmonton. Where they differ, however, is in inspectors.

In the Calgary area, seven public health inspectors oversee tattoo studios as part of their roles (which also include inspecting other ‘personal service’ facilities). In Edmonton, meanwhile, one inspector oversees all the city’s known tattoo studios.

Closure numbers are much lower in Edmonton than Calgary.

AHS has issued nine closure orders for Edmonton tattoo studios in the past five years, and of those, five are still banned from re-opening.

George Boletta, manager of Strange World Tattoo in Calgary, said inspections have improved over the past 10 years.

“When I first started working in the tattoo and piercing industry, (inspectors) would come in and ask where the toilet is,” he said.

“They have really learned a lot over the last 10 years on what the tattoo and piercing industry is.”

Still, Boletta said industry knowledge is not universal.

“I had one (inspector) ask about blood spatter. Well, I said, ‘No blood spatter exists. Like, you’re standing right next to a tattoo going on. There



The Tattoo Guy owner Robert Steele, who runs his business from his home, says more health inspectors are needed to oversee tattoo studios in Edmonton. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

is no blood spatter.”

Boletta said inspections happen about once per year, as well as testing through lab services on the studio’s autoclave.

Edmonton tattoo artist Robert Steele said one inspector isn’t enough for the amount of tattoo studios in that city, particularly those run out of private residences.

A tattoo artist for 11 years, he said studios who don’t take sanitation and safety standards seriously only perpetuate the stigma of the grungy back-alley

141
Known legal tattoo facilities in the Edmonton area

tattoo parlour.

“You can just look on Kijiji and see the number of scratchers out there. It’s appalling, and you never know what it going on in these places,” he says.

“And that ticks me off because

144
Known legal tattoo facilities in the Calgary area

I make sure my legal business operated from my home conversion is above and beyond anything my inspector is going to ask for.”

Boletta agreed, explaining the biggest problem in Calgary

BACKGROUND

The story of tattoo studio closures in Edmonton

While Calgary has seen more closures overall, Alberta Health Services has closed down nine tattoo studios in Edmonton over the past five years.

Five of these closures remain in effect.

A closure order remains active for “Tazzman Tattoo,” a home-based tattoo studio run out of an Edmonton apartment in the area of 107 Avenue and 105 Street shut down by AHS last year. Anyone who received a tattoo there was urged to get tested for blood-borne diseases.

Other studios on the AHS active closure list include two other home-based tattoo studios. One was closed on June 12, 2014, the other on Feb. 12, 2015.

A home-based esthetics, hairstyling and permanent makeup business was also closed on April 11, 2014.

is also scratcher shops — illegal tattoo studios. The shops “don’t know what they’re doing ... they’re not properly sterilizing, reusing ink. Those things that are really putting you and the client at risk.”

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INGLEWOOD

Reopening thanks to tireless work of volunteers



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

After a two-year closure, most trails of the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary are now open to the public.

The facility reopened Thursday, nearly a year ahead of schedule, something officials attributed to the tireless work of volunteers and staff.

The sanctuary was heavily damaged during the 2013 flood in Calgary due to its close proximity to the Bow River.

"We had to restore the habitat, we had to restore access and we had to clean out all the debris," said Doug Marter, parks planning and development manager.

Thousands of pounds of debris were hauled off site, including a literal kitchen sink. It's been a slow, but steady restoration process.

"We had to make sure we weren't compromising the sanctuary from a migratory bird perspective," Marter explained. "We had some fairly significant restrictions as to when we could work because we are on the river."

In order to get some of the heavy tools and equipment onto the site, officials had to wait for the water channel to freeze over enough to carry equipment across.

As it stands, two-thirds of the sanctuary is currently open. The remaining work is expected to finish by spring of next year.

Crews will have to wait for the river to freeze again this winter to carry the viewing platforms across for installation.

Marter said there is a silver lining to the situation, however.

"It's kind of a double-edged sword because, with the disappearance of people, the birds and some of the wildlife started to come back to the sanctuary in greater numbers," he said. "It's sort of an unanticipated benefit."

Marter said some of the soil has also improved and they are noticing the return of vegetation that has not been seen in a number of years.

The sanctuary has been providing a habitat to hundreds of species of bird for more than 80 years.

It's kind of a double-edged sword because, with the disappearance of people, the birds and some wildlife started to come back to the sanctuary in greater numbers.

Doug Marter, parks, planning development manager



Kids have spotted a woodpecker in the trees at the newly reopened Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO



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Police questioning man in hit-and-run

TRAFFIC

Vehicle speeds off leaving mother and two children



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Police were questioning a man Thursday in relation to a hit-and-run in northeast Calgary on Wednesday night that sent a woman and her two young children to hospital.

The children, a boy and girl aged two and four, have since been released from hospital, while the woman remains in serious but stable condition.

Police said the woman was using a crosswalk shortly after 8 p.m. at the intersection of Temple Drive and 56 Street NE when she was struck by a vehicle.

The pedestrian lights were

flashing at the time, police said.

Resident Natalie Mctavish heard a thump from outside and opened the door to investigate.

She saw the woman and her two children.

"Her body was just lifeless," Mctavish said. "The girl was on the ground and the little guy was trying to crawl to his mom."

The vehicle had sped off, Mctavish said. She and her husband immediately called emergency services and, as emergency crews arrived, the mother, though hurt, showed signs of movement, she added.

Residents said there have been numerous near misses



The little guy was trying to crawl to his mom.

Natalie Mctavish,
area resident

in the area, however, Calgary police said the intersection has not seen any other pedestrian collisions in the past five years.

But Mctavish said she has seen a number of vehicle collisions with poles and houses in the area.

A car had driven into her house in the past, and more recently, a vehicle barrelled into the house across the street, she said.

This is the third hit-and-run incident involving pedestrians in Calgary this week.

Greg Hart, program director for Safer Calgary, said distraction is a key factor in many of these types of incidents.

"The distraction is possible because the road is constructed in such a generous way that a person operating a vehicle does not feel vulnerable," he said in a release.

"They feel like they can dedicate resources to something else. This creates conditions where tragedy can strike."



A woman and her two children were struck at Temple Drive and 56 Street NE Wednesday evening. AARON CHATHA/METRO

CRIME

Beware of online scams



Andrea Ross
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton police announced Thursday a second Kijiji fraud bust this week. An 18-year-old man has been charged with two counts of fraud under \$5,000 for allegedly selling counterfeit Samsung cellphones.

The Edmonton Police Service received several complaints in May and June from people who had bought the fake Samsung Galaxy S6 phones through the website. The complainants paid between \$450 and \$600 in cash for phones advertised as new.

"I do understand from Samsung that this is a crime that's seen more in Edmonton than reports received from other cities in Canada," said Const. Tyrone O'Dea.

On July 29, police laid more than 100 fraud charges against an Edmonton man after money was collected through email transfer for concert and event tickets advertised on Kijiji.

WATER SAFETY

Life-jackets a must, police say



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Calgary police are reminding rafters to be safe and respect the rivers during this busy long weekend.

Police have given 640 warnings to those who were either not wearing life-jackets or had alcohol on the river this year.

Police also assisted people in eight separate incidents where rafters ran into unexpected trouble.

The Calgary Fire Department has also performed 24 water rescues this year.

Calgary Police Service District 1 Insp. Tom Hanson said people should leave drugs and alcohol behind and have safe fun on the water by wearing a life-jacket.

"Nobody goes on the water thinking they're going to have a bad day," Hanson said. "Unfortunately that's not the case, and we see (troubling incidents) time in and time out."

The fire department will monitor the rivers more frequently throughout the long weekend, said fire Chief Steve Dongworth.

Even though the Elbow River may seem shallow, there are many deep spots that could be

dangerous to those not wearing a life-jacket, he said.

"We've seen children drown in inches of water," Dongworth said. "That speaks for itself."

In Canada, about a quarter of boating deaths occur when life-jackets are on board but not worn, according to the Canadian Red Cross.

Police are asking rafters along the Elbow and Bow rivers to boat responsibly. Those who are unsafe or disrespectful might receive fines for violating bylaws or provincial statutes.

Fines include \$115 for consuming liquor in public and \$115 for littering on, into or under water.



The Calgary Fire Department will have an increased presence on the city's rivers this long weekend. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

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STATISTICS

Liam, Olivia top Alberta baby-names list

For the second year in a row, the most common names for newborns in the province were Liam and Olivia, according to 2014 data released by Service Alberta on Thursday.

Indeed, Liam held on to the top spot for the third year in a row, while Olivia kept its No. 1 spot for the second time.

Last year's names suggest Albertans are also turning to pop culture for inspiration.

New baby boys are being

named Tyrion from Game of Thrones, Aragorn from Lord of the Rings and Olivander from Harry Potter.

Parents are naming their new daughters Primm from The Hunger Games, Sookie from True Blood, Cosette from Les Misérables, Wednesday from The Addams Family and Khaleesi from Game of Thrones.

Boy names that may cause some double-takes include

Thunderboy and Huckleberry. For girls: Valkyrie, Meadow, Melon, Disney and Bandit.

The vital statistics branch of Service Alberta recorded 6,110 distinct boys names and 7,409 distinct girls names in 2014.

Alberta parents who want to chose the perfect name for their new arrivals can download the free Alberta Baby Names app for their smartphones and tablets.

METRO

+ OH, BABY!

Top 3 girl names:

1. Olivia
2. Emma
3. Emily

Top 3 boy names:

1. Liam
2. Ethan
3. Benjamin



Deron Bilous, minister of Municipal Affairs and Service Alberta, talks with parents and children. MICHELLE FALK/FOR METRO

Baby boom in province

FIVE-YEAR TREND

Birthrate hits record level, now highest in the country

Michelle Falk
For Metro | Calgary

Babies born this year might be classmates with Melon, Bandit or Disney, according to a list of the province's most recent baby names, released Thursday. One thing is for sure: there's going to be a lot of kids in those classes.

Alberta broke its provincial birthrate record in 2014, in keeping with a five-year "baby boom," according to Service Alberta.

A total of 55,587 babies were born last year: 27,147 girls and 28,440 boys.

"The last time we've come anywhere near that was in 1983," said Deron Bilous, minister of municipal affairs and Service Alberta, in a release.

"Alberta is not just a province where a lot of Canadians and a

lot of folks are migrating and immigrating to, but our birth rate is the fastest in the country."

When asked what the birthrate will mean for daycare funding, Bilous said the province needs to ensure there are spaces for all these new kids.

Gordon Wilkinson, vice-president of Little Einsteins Day Cares, which operates 13 daycare facilities in Edmonton, said he would like the government to consider subsidies for parents, increasing the threshold for parents to qualify for subsidies and an increase in infant subsidies to daycares.

Wilkinson said one of the foreseeable problems resulting from this baby boom is a significant shortage of available spaces.

He said it's not cost effective for most day cares to take infants, compared with older children, mainly because Alberta child-care licensing regulations require three staff for every baby under 19 months.

Even at an average of \$1,100 a month, daycare margins are very tight, he said.

"You can only charge parents so much," Wilkinson said.

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55,587

Of the 55,587 babies who were born last year, 27,147 were girls and 28,440 were boys.

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Mike Morrison
Metro | Calgary

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For the thousands of people who will soon have access to the LRT, it means a completely new way of life. For example, instead

of being stuck in traffic and then trying to fend off other cars for parking downtown, they'll now be able to fend off other cars for parking at the Park and Rides and then be stuck on the trains.

But that's not all. Green Line users will also soon discover how fun it is to always have exactly \$3.15 in change so they can buy a ticket. Actually, by the time 2024 rolls around, I fully expect Calgary Transit to be charging around \$5.58 to ride the light rails. Hold on to your pennies, folks. If there's one organization that's going to find a use for them, it's going to be Calgary Transit.

Actually, perhaps I'm being a little mean. There are a lot of people who will benefit from the new CTrain, and at the end of the day, it really does work great... It's the beginning of the day and evening rush hour that you really have to worry about.

I'm not sure why, but

transit's biggest problems always seem to happen when the most people want to use it. Like a few weeks ago, when two mechanical failures resulted in delays for commuters two mornings in a row. The weather during those mornings? Pouring rain.



Users will soon discover how fun it is to always have exactly \$3.15 in change.

Transit officials have said they're looking at investing in equipment that would automate the mechanical inspections, but I wouldn't hold my breath.

If the organization still can't even figure out e-fare payments, I don't know how much we should be banking on them figuring out something complicated like automated inspections.

During the next nine years, I do hope the new Green Line motivates some

other changes that would benefit all Calgarians. Like an increased presence of transit officers on the trains, especially at night. While numbers show that trains are safer than ever, I challenge any Calgary Transit official to ride the train around the core after the

sun sets. In a matter of minutes, they'll see there's still a lot of work to be done.

The Green Line is certainly exciting for both Calgary Transit and all Calgarians, it means that we're getting more and more ways of travelling around the city.

And while it might not be perfect, we're definitely heading in the right direction.

Mike Morrison tweets from @mikesbloggity.



This map shows the planned route for the Green Line, stretching from far north-central Calgary to the deep southeast. COURTESY CITY OF CALGARY

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Canadian clinics tossing less blood

BLOOD DONATION

Discard rate down from 9.2 per cent peak in 2012-13 year



Robson Fletcher
Metro | Calgary

For several years, nearly one in 10 blood donations collected in Canada were thrown away without ever being used, but Canadian Blood Services says it has now managed to bring its discard rate down.

Blood discards spiked to 9.3 per cent in 2012-13, according to the CBS annual report for that year, in large part due to a recall of batches collected in Regina after errors were discovered in the screening process.

The rate was trimmed to 8.5 per cent in 2014-15, according to chief supply chain officer Ian Mumford, who said CBS is focusing primarily on reducing the



Blood from a Canadian clinic. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

number of underweight blood collections, which make up about half of the discards.

If donors feel unwell at some point during the process, Mumford said, the needle is typically removed from their arm before a full unit is collected, leading to underweight collections.

CBS has been educating donors to arrive well hydrated, which results in "less likelihood of them feeling faint."

Blood that sits on the shelf too long can also expire, Mumford said, which accounts for about one percentage point of the dis-

card rate. Another one per cent is taken and used for quality control testing, and typically another one per cent is thrown out due to positive tests for transmissible disease (all units are tested for disease). Mumford said if there is any question about safety, "we would always err on the side of discarding the unit."

In the first part of the 2015-16 fiscal year, the CBS discard rate is down to 7.9 per cent, Mumford said. Blood inventory levels usually dwindle during the summer and CBS is running donor clinics throughout the long weekend.

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Calgary Stampeder Matt Walter had a successful career with the University of Calgary Dinos and now has been fortunate enough to spend his pro career in Calgary, too.
CANDICE WARD/FOR METRO

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MATT WALTER GETS HIS TIME TO SHINE



Candice Ward
For Metro | Calgary

Calgary Stampeder Matt Walter will be stepping into some big shoes this weekend as he takes over as starting running back for Jon Cornish, who is out with a broken thumb.

Excited about this weekend's opportunity to prove to himself he is more than capable of succeeding in this role, Walter talks with Metro about seizing opportunities and life off the field.

Family supporters

Walter's football career took flight in Calgary, with him growing up here and playing for the Calgary Dinos.

Playing on home soil is something he and his family treasure. With his parents in the stands at each and every Stampeders home game, they have become dedicated and



Matt Walter on the field.
CANDICE WARD/FOR METRO

invested fans.

"My dad brings binoculars and headphones for the radio to the game. My mom screams at people, and people have complained about her before, but that is some passionate fans," said Walter.

"They have always had my back."

Off the field

Walter holds a bachelor of commerce degree in petroleum land management from the University of Calgary's Haskayne School of Business and, over the past few off-seasons, has worked at Manito Energy Inc.

When he is not on the field or in the office, he likes to spend his time in the mountains, snowboarding with friends, or online watching YouTube videos or on Wikipedia.

"If I am not at work, I am pretty much just hanging out," said Walter.

"I am pretty much a nerd."

Giving back

Walter began his journey to his football career at a young age and he believes that playing sports (especially team sports) can have a positive impact on the lives of children when they are growing up. With that in mind, Wal-

ter uses his role as a Calgary Stampeder to give back to organizations that help create an opportunity for children to take part in sport, such as KidSport.

"Kids getting involved with sports at a young age is the best thing they can do to help them when they are older — whether that is to do better in school or university, or whatever they decide to do later on in life," said Walter.

"You learn a lot through sports — you learn how to play as a team, you learn how to play through adversity, getting along with a lot of different people, and it's also fun and you're staying in shape."

Walter also supports Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids, which provides healthy lunches for those who would otherwise go hungry.

Pre-game rituals

Like most of the Calgary Stampeders, Walter likes to

start off game day with a big breakfast consisting of bacon and eggs.

"I also make a cocktail of pre-workout powder," said Walter.

"It's basically radioactive what I take before a game."

Seizing the opportunity

This weekend, Walter will be taking on a larger role as a running back. While every athlete fears their career coming to an unexpected end, Walter fears not taking advantage of big opportunities and playing to his full potential.

"I don't want to have any regrets when I leave the sport," he said. "I want to feel like I put everything I had into it."

For Walter, this weekend is about helping the team but also taking the next step in his career.

"I want to prove to myself that I can be the player that I always wanted to be," he said.

+ QUICK Q&A

Favourite sport other than football to watch?
Lacrosse.

What do you love to talk about but no one ever asks you about?

Science, space, philosophy, even general economics. I pretty much go on about a lot of stuff but no one listens.

Your all-time favourite Stampeder (past or present)?

Jeff Garcia.

Favourite Calgary hangout?

My house.

What is your ideal vacation?

In the mountains, no cell service, a lodge and a bunch of my friends.

If we turned on your iPod, what would be playing?
A lot of metal.

What movie could you watch over and over again?

Interstellar and Predator.

Bucket-list item you are dying to cross off?

At some point after my football career, I want to travel the world, but that is more of a pipe dream.

Early bird or night owl?

Night owl.

Beer or wine?

Beer.

If you never became a football player, what would you have become?

I would probably be slaving away nine-to-five in some office somewhere, wishing I was playing football.

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Fringe aims for 10,000 visitors

ENTERTAINMENT

Festival called perfect way to connect with arts scene



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Calgary's uncensored performing arts festival returns Friday night is ready to enchant you with unique stories told by an eclectic mix of performers.

The Calgary Fringe Festival will offer much of the same as in previous years — including the Notorious Beer Garden — but will also showcase some new acts to entertain festival-goers, said Michele Gallant, festival director and producer.

"The quality of talent that comes out is really quite spec-

+ WHEN & WHERE

The Calgary Fringe Festival runs from July 31 to Aug. 8 in Inglewood

tacular."

This year, expect street performers to lurch among the crowd, giving you a sneak-preview of next year's 10-year celebration.

Newcomers to this year's festival are encouraged to watch something slightly outrageous, Gallant said.

"Take a leap of faith and try something new," she said. "They are all excellent shows and all profits go to the artists, so you can feel good about spending the money."

The growing festival saw 9,922 people enter its gates last year. This year, organizers hope to surpass 10,000, Gallant said.

"We're going for it," she

said. "(The festival) grows every single year, especially when there's a downturn in the market — it's affordable entertainment for those staying in the city to come and see interesting theatre."

But don't worry too much about the crowds — there will be enough comfortable space to house artists and patrons alike, Gallant said.

In fact, that's why the festival hasn't grown its venues too much — it wants performers and festival-goers to mingle without feeling cramped, Gallant said, adding it's the perfect opportunity for people to connect to Calgary's arts scene.

Some newcomers say they don't know why they haven't visited the festival sooner, she said.

"It's so engaging and so compelling," she said. "It'll be an eye-opening experience to see how diverse the performances are."



Calgary Fringe Festival director and producer Michele Gallant gets ready to Limbo at the 2010 festival. CONTRIBUTED

+ 5 MUST-SEES

Michele Gallant's picks for must-see shows:

Best Picture

Tara Travis, Jon Paterson and Kurt Fitzpatrick play many characters who ridicule every best picture Oscar winner.

Breaking Bange

Bange's life was moving quickly until he broke his neck. The true story of a clown who almost died trying to be funny.

A Picasso

Picasso has been summoned by German occupation forces. His interrogator must identify which real Picasso paintings were confiscated from their owners.

Zero Tolerance: Sex, Math and Seizures

Selfridge has never forgiven her father for forcing her brain-damaged sister into an institution.

UnCouth

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NDP seeks public's input on budget

Alberta Finance Minister Joe Ceci is casting a wide net for input into the NDP government's first budget.

He says Albertans can visit the province's budget website (budget.alberta.ca) for the next six weeks to provide ideas and comments.

He also says that he plans to meet with businesses and organizations over the next two months to discuss how to diversify the economy and protect public services.

Cabinet ministers are to meet with stakeholders such as the agriculture, forestry and energy industries, the non-profit sector and aboriginal leaders.

Ceci says feedback is necessary to help him craft a budget for this year and next that will reflect the priorities of all Albertans.

Premier Rachel Notley has said the budget is to be delivered in October.

"I want to hear Albertans' thoughts and ideas on how



Finance Minister Joe Ceci.
METRO FILE

"I want to hear Albertans' thoughts and ideas."

Finance Minister Joe Ceci

the government can improve their quality of life and build our economy," Ceci said in a release Thursday.

The finance minister will be working with more than \$1 billion in surplus cash from the 2014-15 budget year when the Progressive Conservatives were still in government.

But he has indicated that challenges lie ahead as the current fiscal year will be the first full reporting period with oil selling at drastically lower prices.

The Tories introduced a budget March 26, but lost to the NDP in the May 5 election before it passed.

The Notley government has since passed a bill to keep \$18.5 billion in government money flowing. It has also announced hundreds of millions in new spending to cover higher class size enrolment and more money for health care and social programs.

Notley has said that she expects the October budget will include a \$5.4-billion deficit projected by the NDP during the election.

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5

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN

Stephen Harper is poised to fire the starting gun for the Oct. 19 federal election. Sources say the prime minister is set to visit Gov. Gen. David Johnston within days, possibly as soon as Sunday, to formally dissolve Parliament and launch what will be the costliest and — at 11 weeks — one of the longest campaigns in Canadian history. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



ISTOCK

1 Number of days

Elections law requires a minimum campaign of 37 days. It does not impose a maximum length. Harper is choosing to make this the longest traditional campaign in Canadian history. Only the first two election campaigns after Confederation were longer — 81 days in 1867 and 96 days in 1872 — but in those early days voting was staggered across the country over a period of several months, necessarily extending the length of the campaigns. Since then, the longest campaign was 74 days in 1926.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

2 Cha-ching

Due to legislation passed last year by the Harper government, campaign spending limits for parties and candidates will increase by 1/37th for every day longer than 37 days. Even had this campaign lasted just the minimum length, it was already on target to be the costliest in history, with spending limits of about \$25 million for each party and an average of \$100,000 for each candidate. Those limits will more than double for an 11-week campaign. That gives an advantage to Harper's Conservative Party as its candidates have raised more money than any other party.



ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

3 Campaign costs

Elections Canada estimates that a five-week campaign would cost about \$375 million to administer. A longer campaign will mean the agency must pay untold millions more to rent office space, furniture and equipment for returning officers in each of the country's 338 ridings and for staff in those offices. Taxpayers will also foot the bill for much larger rebates to parties and candidates, who receive reimbursements for 50 per cent and 60 per cent, respectively, of their eligible election expenses.



ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

4 It's debatable

The tradition of holding two televised leaders' debates, the pivotal point of modern election campaigns, will not apply this time. The Conservatives upended that tradition last spring by announcing that Harper would not participate in the one French and one English debate sponsored by a consortium of broadcasters. Instead, there will be a series of at least four debates sprinkled throughout the campaign and sponsored by a variety of sources, starting Aug. 6 with a debate sponsored by Maclean's magazine.

5 Ready, set, vote

Under legislation passed by the Harper government last year, voters will need to produce identification that shows where they live before being allowed to cast ballots. As well, voter information cards sent to all electors by Elections Canada will no longer be considered valid pieces of ID. Electoral experts have warned these two measures could disenfranchise tens of thousands of voters, particularly the elderly, young people and aboriginals who are least likely to have proof of address.



DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

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Bottles of the abortion-inducing drug RU-486. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Abortion pill allowed

HEALTH CANADA

MPs mum on decision to legalize drug in Canada

Conservative cabinet ministers shied away Thursday from questions about Health Canada's decision to approve the abortion drug known as RU-486.

Justice Minister Peter MacKay declined to comment on the decision during a stop in Calgary to make an unrelated announcement.

"Oh gosh. I think that would best be directed to (Health) Minister (Rona) Ambrose," he said.

"It is an issue of course for women, families, Canadians everywhere, but I think your question would best be directed to Health Canada."

Health Canada confirmed late Wednesday that it has approved the drug for use here, a decision that comes two-and-a-half years

after the manufacturer's application was submitted.

Women will need to obtain a prescription from a doctor to purchase the pill.

Ambrose told reporters in St. Albert, Alta., that the decision did not rest with her.

"It's out of my hands and the decision is final," she said.

"Any of those details you would have to speak to the officials at Health Canada and the scientists that actually manage the regulatory approval process. I'm not involved in it."

Ambrose cancelled two events scheduled for Thursday afternoon and Friday in Edmonton and area. No reason was given.

The RU-486 drug has been available since 1988 in France and was approved for use in the United States in 2000.

Vicki Saporta, CEO of the National Abortion Federation and its Canadian offshoot, NAF Canada, has said the drug probably won't be available in Canada until early next year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TERROR TRIAL

Cairo court delays journalist's verdict

Mohamed Fahmy's legal saga was drawn out further on Thursday as an Egyptian court abruptly postponed a much-anticipated verdict in his widely denounced terror trial.

The Canadian journalist — who was first arrested 19 months ago — expressed frustration at the delay, which will now see him return to a Cairo court on Aug. 2.

"It's just mind boggling the way they continue to play with

our emotions here," Fahmy told The Canadian Press. "It's very hard on everyone."

Fahmy said his lawyers have since confirmed that the case is expected to be back in court on Sunday, but there was speculation even that date could be pushed back as two judicial officials speaking on the condition of anonymity said the judge in the case was seriously ill.

The delay means more anxious anticipation for Fahmy,

who admitted a postponement of a verdict was not one of the outcomes he had prepared for.

Canada's minister of state for consular affairs said the government was calling on Egypt to use "all the tools at its disposal" to resolve Fahmy's case.

"We are deeply concerned over Mr. Fahmy's current situation and disappointed by the continued delay in his trial," Lynne Yelich said in a statement. "We ask that all branches

+ VOWS

Amidst the stress of the last week, Fahmy said he and his fiancée, Marwa Omara, had married.

of the Egyptian government work together in a concerted manner to address the situation of Mr. Fahmy."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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New port on the horizon

IQUALUIT

Ottawa issues \$64 million for Nunavut harbour project

For decades, high tide has been rush hour in Iqaluit as fishermen and hunters scramble to run their boats up on shore and anchor them before the sea ebbs.

"All the boaters and hunters start to come in all at once," deputy Iqaluit mayor Simon Nattaq said through a translator. "Sometimes it can get pretty dangerous."

Those days may become a thing of the past. The federal government on Thursday committed up to \$64 million to finance a deepwater port, which has been at the top of Nunavut's wish list for years.

"I'm glad it's in my lifetime," laughed Transportation Minister Monica Eil.

"It will realize more economic activity and reduce potential economic disruption. We have tourism op-



A boat sits along the high water mark on the beach in Iqaluit on Wednesday. Iqaluit may finally get a harbour where supplies and tourists can be brought into town safely and conveniently.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

portunities — I'm thinking of cruise ships being able to come here more often. For ships, they have a safer and quicker opportunity to unload goods brought here."

Eil said construction projects have been delayed by up to a year when ships have

"I was very honoured to deliver this project for the people of Iqaluit."

Leona Aglukkaq

been unable to offload heavy equipment due to ice or bad weather. A port means those delays would end.

All but one of Nunavut's 25 communities are on the coast. Only one has any kind of docking facility.

Nunavummiut throughout

the territory have long complained that coastlines from Newfoundland to Vancouver Island have hundreds of government-owned harbours, while they have nothing.

Even in Iqaluit, supplies shipped from the south must be loaded onto barges and hauled up onto the only Coast Guard-administered beach in Canada. Cruise ship tourists must cross sometimes choppy waters on inflatable boats if they want to visit the communities they pass.

The single port in Thursday's announcement is expected to cost \$85 million, which includes about \$20 million from Nunavut.

Federal environment minister and soon-to-be federal Conservative candidate Leona Aglukkaq called the project a "game-changer" that will bring big benefits.

"This has been a project that has been talked about for many, many years. I was very honoured to deliver this project for the people of Iqaluit."

Construction is expected to begin next summer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Speeder wanted to see sunset at cottage: OPP

A desire to get to the cottage before sunset was cited by an Ontario woman accused of driving at nearly double the speed limit.

Ontario Provincial Police say a car was clocked at 150 km/h in an 80 km/h zone earlier this week on the Blue-water Veteran's Highway near St. Joseph, along Lake Huron.

The driver told police she was speeding in an attempt to make it to the cottage to see the sunset.

There was just one problem with her explanation. She was pulled over at 8:20 a.m.

A 25-year-old woman has been charged under Ontario's racing legislation. Her licence has also been suspended for seven days, and her car will be impounded for the week.

She's due in court in Goderich, Ont., on Sept. 1 to answer to the charge.

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MH370: Solid clue found

MISSING AIRCRAFT

Investigators say washed-up wing part of a Boeing 777

A sea-crusted wing part that washed up on an island in the western Indian Ocean may be the first trace of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 since it vanished nearly a year and a half ago — and a tragic but finally solid clue to one of aviation's most perplexing and expensive mysteries.

Malaysia's prime minister said Thursday the debris found on the French island of Reunion will be sent for investigation to the French city of Toulouse, hub of the European aviation industry.

"We have had many false alarms before, but for the sake of the families who have lost loved ones and suffered such heartbreaking uncertainty, I pray that we will find out the truth so that they may have closure and peace," Najib Razak said on his personal blog.

Najib promised to make any new information public quickly.



French police carry a piece of debris from a plane in Saint-Andre, Reunion Island, on Wednesday. LUCAS MARIE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Air-safety investigators — one of them a Boeing investigator — have identified the component as a "flaperon" from the trailing edge of a Boeing 777 wing, a U.S. official said. Flight 370, which disappeared March 8, 2014 with 239 people on board, is the only 777 known to be missing.

“Clearly we are treating this as a major lead.”

Warren Truss, Australian transport minister

The piece could help investigators figure out how the plane crashed, but whether it will help search crews pinpoint the rest of the wreckage is unclear, given the complexity of the currents in the southern Indian Ocean and how much time has elapsed since the plane disappeared.

"It's the first real evidence that there is a possibility that a part of the aircraft may have been found," said Australian Transport Minister Warren Truss, whose country is leading the search for the plane in a remote patch of ocean far off Australia's west coast. "It's too early to make that judgment, but clearly we are treating this as a major lead."

Flight 370 had been travelling from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing, but investigators believe based on satellite data that the plane turned south into the Indian Ocean after vanishing from radar. If the wing part is from the Malaysian plane, it would bolster that theory and put to rest others that it travelled north, or landed somewhere after being hijacked.

The wing piece is about 2 metres long. Investigators have found a number on the part, but it is not a serial or registration number, Truss said. It could be a maintenance number, which may help investigators figure out what plane it belongs to, he said.

Flaperons are located on the rear edge of both wings, about midway between the fuselage and the tips.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DOWNED AIRPLANE

Ukraine pursuing tribunal

Ukraine's foreign minister says the five countries investigating the downing of a Malaysia Airlines plane over Ukraine a year ago will try again in a few months to get Security Council approval for an international tribunal to prosecute the alleged perpetrators.

Pavlo Klimkin said in an interview Thursday with The Associated Press that one of Russia's arguments for vetoing the resolution to establish a tribunal on Wednesday was that it was premature and "untimely," since the results of the investigation aren't expected until October.

He said an international tribunal is "the best option politically and legally" because it would be fully accountable, transparent and independent.

"We're not about to give up on that," Klimkin said.

"We will definitely try again, with all kinds of support of (the) international community."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Afghan Taliban confirm longtime leader's death

The Taliban confirmed the death of longtime leader Mullah Mohammad Omar and appointed his successor Thursday, as a new round of peace talks was indefinitely postponed amid concerns over how committed the new leadership is to ending the militant group's 14-year insurgency.

The Afghan Taliban Shura, or Supreme Council, chose Mullah Omar's deputy, Mullah Akhtar Mansoor, as its new leader, two Taliban figures said, adding the seven-member council had met in the Pakistani city of Quetta.

Mansoor is considered close to Pakistani authorities who hosted peace talks earlier this month, and his election could widen an internal split between fighters who favour negotiations with the Afghan government and those who want to continue an insurgency that has gained speed following the end of the international combat mission last year. Mansoor has effectively commanded the movement for the three years. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPACE

Comet probe finds basic parts of life

Scientists say the Philae space probe has gathered data supporting the theory that comets can serve as cosmic laboratories in which some of the essential elements for life are assembled.

Philae, which is part of the European Space Agency's Rosetta mission, used two separate instruments to "sniff" for molecules during its bumpy landing on comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko last November.

In an article published Thursday in the journal Science, researchers said they spent months analyzing the data and concluded that 67P contains at least 16 organic compounds. Four of them, including acetone, hadn't been detected on a comet before.

"Comets are loaded with all the raw materials like water, CO₂, methane, ammonia, needed to assemble more complex organic molecules, perhaps sparked by UV-photons from the sun or cosmic

rays or in the shock that occurs when a comet hits the surface of a planet like the young Earth," said Mark McCaughrean, a senior scientific adviser at the European Space Agency.

It's not yet known whether the complex molecules found in 67P were made in the early solar system and then incorporated into the comet or formed there later, he said.

"Either way, it seems that comets are pretty good places to find the building blocks of molecules which later on could be used for life."

McCaughrean, who wasn't directly involved in the study, dismissed recent reports that evidence of life itself had been found on the comet.

But he said the prebiotic compounds that were detected might be coaxed into even more complex molecules such as amino acids, including by a planetary impact.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

“It seems that comets are pretty good places to find the building blocks of molecules which later on could be used for life.”

Mark McCaughrean, European Space Agency

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OHIO

Officer pleads not guilty to murder charges

A white U.S. police officer who shot a black motorist after stopping him over a missing licence plate pleaded not guilty Thursday to charges of murder and voluntary manslaughter.

The July 19 death of 43-year-old Samuel DuBose in Cincinnati, Ohio, comes amid months of national scrutiny of police dealings with African-Americans, especially those killed by officers.

Officer Ray Tensing, 25, appeared at his arraignment Thursday wearing a striped jail suit, with his hands cuffed behind him.

When Judge Megan Shanahan set bond at \$1 million, people in the courtroom audience cheered and the judge rebuked them. The judge rejected the defence attorney's contention that Tensing wasn't at a flight risk.

Tensing's attorney Stewart

Mathews said that there are two sides to the case and that the much-viewed body camera video of the stop can be interpreted differently from the prosecutor's version.

Mathews described Tensing, who is due back in court in August, as "very depressed" and "in shock at this point," adding that Tensing has felt "like he's been run over by a train from the state of the case and it continues." Tensing, who could face up to life in prison if convicted, has said he thought he was going to be dragged under the car and "feared for his life," according to Mathews.

Authorities so far have not focused on race in the death of DuBose. But city officials who viewed video footage released from Tensing's body camera said the traffic stop shouldn't have led to a shooting.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Plainclothes Israeli police detain a man after people were attacked with a knife during a gay pride parade on Thursday in central Jerusalem. Israeli police said six people were stabbed. SEBASTIAN SCHEINER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Six stabbed at gay pride

JERUSALEM

Alleged attacker guilty of similar charges in 2005

An ultra-Orthodox Jewish man lunged into a group of revelers leading Jerusalem's annual gay pride parade and stabbed six of them Thursday evening as they marched in the holy city, Israeli police and witnesses said.

The alleged attacker, Yishai Schlissel, had recently been released from prison after serving a term for stabbing several people at a gay pride parade in 2005, police spokeswoman Luba Samri said, adding that he was arrested at the scene of Thursday's attack.

Eli Bin of Israel's emergency service said six young people were wounded in the attack, two of them seriously.

The annual parade was proceeding as planned when the crowd's joyful chants gave way to screams. Panic ensued, and a bloody woman fell to the

ground, an Associated Press photographer at the scene said.

A man with blood seeping from his back wandered around with a dazed look before collapsing. Another man with his shirt off also had blood dripping down his back. Medics quickly surrounded them both and applied pressure to stop the bleeding.

Jerusalem police spokesman Asi Ahroni said there was a "massive presence" of police securing the parade but "unfortunately the man managed to pull out a knife and attack."

Shaarei Tzedek hospital said it was treating a man with stab wounds who was in serious condition and a woman in critical condition, both in their 20s.

"I do think that homophobia is rooted in the city, but that's the point of the parade," said Benny Zupick, 21, shortly after the attack. "We are trying to change that ... It takes one man to create a scene like this. Hopefully he's a minority." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Taliban report death of leader, name successor

The Taliban confirmed the death of longtime leader Mullah Mohammad Omar and appointed his successor Thursday, as a new round of peace talks was indefinitely postponed amid concerns over how committed the new leadership

is to ending the militant group's 14-year insurgency.

The Afghan Taliban Shura, or Supreme Council, chose Mullah Omar's deputy, Mullah Akhtar Mansoor, as its new leader, two Taliban figures announced, saying the seven-member council had met in the Pakistani city of Quetta.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nigerian soldiers rescue 71 captives

AFRICA

Boko Haram extremists held some prisoners as long as a year

Nigerian soldiers rescued 71 people, almost all girls and women, in firefights that killed many Boko Haram militants in villages near the northeastern city of Maiduguri, the military said Thursday.

Some captives told The Associated Press they were in the clutches of the Islamic extremists for as long as a year.

"I was waiting for death ... they often threatened to kill us," said Yagana Kyari, a woman in her 20s who said she had been kidnapped from her village of Kawuri and taken to a militant camp in Walimberi, about 40 kilometres southeast of Maiduguri, the biggest city in the northeast and the birthplace of



Women and children rescued by Nigerian soldiers from Boko Haram extremists in the northeast of Nigeria arrive at the Maiduguri military office Thursday. JOSSY OLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boko Haram.

"Our gallant troops have rescued a total number of 59 civilians in two camps of the terrorist group," army spokesman Col. I.T. Gusau said. "Many of the terrorists were killed in

the course of the operations, but mop up is still going on."

The 59, all women and children except for five elderly men, were freed on Thursday, he said. Another 12 women and girls were rescued Wednesday from

Kilakisa, 90 kilometres south-west of Maiduguri, he said.

The military has said hundreds of captives were freed in March when they declared they had seized back all towns held by Boko Haram, which last year had declared an Islamic caliphate in a large swath of the northeast.

But attacks have increased in recent weeks, with hundreds killing in suicide bombings and village assaults.

At least two women and girl suicide bombers this month were said to have come from the area where those freed this week were held. It is feared Boko Haram is turning its captives into weapons.

Nigeria's home-grown Islamic group drew international outrage with the April 2014 kidnapping of nearly 300 schoolgirls from the remote northeastern town of Chibok. Many of them escaped on their own, but 219 still are missing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COURTS

Teen shopped after suffocating baby

A teenage girl suffocated her newborn baby boy before putting his body in a shopping bag then going on a trip to a Victoria's Secret store the next day, prosecutors said as she was charged with murder Thursday.

Tiona Rodriguez, now 18, pleaded not guilty, with her lawyer saying it was a stillbirth, not a killing.

The indictment came nearly two years after Rodriguez was arrested on a \$45 shoplifting charge at the lingerie store, where a security guard found the body in a bag Rodriguez was carrying.

Prosecutors said their lengthy investigation filled out a picture of a girl who became a mother at 14 and was determined not to let anyone know she was having another baby.

"She knew she would be in big trouble if her family found out, so she made a plan to kill this baby," Manhattan Assistant District Attorney Rachel Ferrari said.

To carry out a plan formulated for weeks, the then-17-

year-old Rodriguez went to a friend's house Oct. 16, 2013, and delivered in a bathroom, tore the umbilical cord with her hands and asphyxiated the baby boy, Ferrari said.

Defence lawyer Earl Ward said Rodriguez hadn't realized she was pregnant, adding that her condition hadn't been spotted during an annual primary-care checkup a month before the birth. While prosecutors said the baby was full-term, Ward said Rodriguez didn't know

how long she'd been pregnant. Prosecutors said Rodriguez knew plenty about pregnancies and trying to conceal them. After having her now four-year-old son — a pregnancy unknown to her family until she went into labour — Rodriguez delivered again in 2012, Ferrari said. That child didn't survive.

The shoplifting case was dismissed last year after prosecutors conceded that time had run out to try it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

“She had derailed her life once. She was not going to do it again.”

Rachel Ferrari

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WEATHER

Heavy rains in Nepal trigger mountain landslides, killing at least 30 people

Landslides caused by heavy rains buried several mountain villages in Nepal on Thursday, killing at least 30 people, and bad weather was hampering the search for others, authorities said.

Rescuers pulled out 19 bodies after the landslide in the village in Lumle, about 200 kilometres west of Kathmandu, according to the National Emergency

Operation Center.

An Associated Press cameraman saw police and army rescuers digging through piles of debris in search of at least 11 more people.

More rain was falling, and helicopters were grounded. The highway linking the village with Pokhara, the main city in the region, was blocked in several places, delaying rescuers.

Another five bodies were recovered in nearby Dudhe village, where two bridges were washed away.

One more person was killed in the neighbouring Baglung district, where the death toll was expected to rise.

There was also a report of five others killed in three separate villages, bringing Thursday's death toll from landslides to 30.

Heavy rains during the seasonal monsoon in Nepal often trigger landslides in the mountains and flooding in the southern plains.

The devastating earthquake in April that killed nearly 8,900 people had set off many landslides and officials fear that the heavy rainfall would trigger more.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Veronica de Negri, mother of slain photographer Rodrigo Rojas, attends a tribute to her son outside the Gabriela Mistral Museum in Santiago, Chile. LUIS HIDALGO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Justice, 29 years later

CHILE

Five more former soldiers charged in 1986 burning

Five more former members of the Chilean military were charged on Thursday in the fatal burning of a 19-year-old U.S. resident during a 1986 protest against the military dictatorship.

Judge Mario Carroza charged the former soldiers with premeditated killing in the burning death of Rodrigo Rojas, and the attempted homicide of 18-year-old Carmen Quintana.

For a long time, their attackers enjoyed impunity. But last week, the same judge charged seven former members of the military with the attack after a soldier testified about the case, breaking a nearly three-decade pact of silence.

Soldiers doused Rojas and Quintana with gasoline and set

them ablaze during a protest on July 2, 1986. Rojas died four days later. He was a photographer visiting from the U.S., where he studied and lived with his exiled mother.

Quintana suffered severe burns over more than 60 per cent of her body. Her scarred face became one of the symbols of the atrocities committed during Gen. Augusto Pinochet's 1973-1990 dictatorship.

President Michelle Bachelet, who met Quintana on Thursday at the presidential palace, said the government is committed to continuing to uncover human rights abuses committed during Augusto Pinochet's dictatorship, which killed tortured or imprisoned 40,018 people, according to official figures.

Pinochet died in 2006 under house arrest without ever being tried on charges of illegal enrichment and human rights violations. Some 70 military officials have been jailed for crimes against humanity and about 700 more are facing trial.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Extradition warrant issued for escaped drug lord

A judge in Mexico issued a provisional warrant to detain escaped drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman based on an extradition request from the U.S.

A federal official said Thursday that court hearings would be required before the extradition could ever be carried out.

Guzman faces a host of Mexican charges following his July 11 escape through a tunnel from Mexico's highest-security prison.

The U.S. filed an extradition request for Guzman on June 25.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Bombardier profits down this quarter

MANUFACTURING

New CEO cutting costs amid slumping sales abroad

Bombardier said it will delay the debut of a new business jet it had touted as an example of its forward thinking as it announced plans Thursday to cut costs amid a drop in profits.

After his first full quarter at the helm, CEO Alain Bellemare said he has a stronger grasp of what the company needs to do to turn around and it is looking to reduce the cost of making its planes and trains.

"After five months on the job, I have a better understanding of our challenges and opportunities," said Bellemare, who took over in February, on a conference call with investors. "We are taking specific action, including the launch of our Bombardier transformation plan, a disciplined approach to cash management and the strengthening of our leadership team to reshape the company and ensure our long-term success."

The company said the debut of its new Global 7000 business jet will be delayed until 2018, two years after its original schedule of 2016. Bellemare



A Challenger jet comes in for a landing past the Bombardier plant in Montreal in May.

RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

said a review of the project was nearly complete and that the first test-flight plane is currently being assembled in Toronto.

Bombardier reported a second-quarter profit of \$125 million US, down from \$155 million a year ago, as a stronger U.S. dollar hurt revenue.

Chief financial officer Pierre Alary said falling demand for its business jets from China and Russia helped drag down its profits, but the company expects demand to rebound

in the second half of the year.

Net orders for its business airplanes fell to eight during the second quarter from 30 a year earlier, the company said, while orders for its commercial aircraft fell to three from 18 last year.

In May, the company said it would cut about 1,750 employees in Montreal, Toronto and Ireland, citing the same weak demand for its business jets.

Bombardier is looking for new options for its rail busi-

ness as it prepares an initial public offering for a minority stake in the division. Bellemare said the company is open to an alternative but it is not considering selling the entire rail unit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

\$4.6B

Second quarter total revenue, compared to \$4.9B in Q2 last year.

ENERGY

Cenovus to cut 300 to 400 more jobs

Cenovus Energy says 300 to 400 workers will be let go from its Calgary office by year end as hopes for a quick recovery in oil prices evaporate.

The cuts announced Thursday are on top of 800 positions Cenovus eliminated in February.

"It is always difficult when we have to let good staff members go. We take these decisions very seriously," CEO Brian Ferguson told analysts on a conference call. "These workforce reductions are directly related to a more focused pace of work in response to the continued low price environment."

A rebound in crude prices to around the US\$60 a barrel mark in May and June proved to be short lived. U.S. benchmark crude

prices have been below US\$50 a barrel in recent weeks, about half of what it fetched a year earlier.

In addition to the head office jobs, the oil producer is also looking to trim its workforce in the field in early 2016.

The reduction is expected to save Cenovus about \$100 million annually, on top of the \$280 million in cost savings it is already targeting for this year.

Cenovus (TSX:CVE) is also reducing its quarterly dividend by 40 per cent to 16 cents a share. The company has "stress tested" its financial strength at US\$50 oil prices through 2017 and believes it can fund its new dividend and invest in its operations without harming its balance sheet.

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IN BRIEF

IMF hesitating on bailout

An International Monetary Fund official says the IMF cannot participate in another Greek bailout until Greece and its creditors make difficult decisions on economic

reforms and debt relief. Briefing reporters on condition of anonymity, the official says Greece needs to commit to reforms and creditors must provide debt relief.

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NOTICE OF HEARING FOR Permanent Guardianship Order To Rebecca Morray

Take notice that on the **10th day of August 2015 at 9:30 a.m.**, at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom #1205, 601 - 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, a hearing will take place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for: **Custody Order; Permanent Guardianship Order** of your children born on **January 5, 2007 and July 13, 2004**. If you wish to speak to this matter in court, you **MUST** appear in court on this date. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you do not attend in person or by a lawyer, an Order may be made in your absence and the Judge may make a different Order than the one being applied for by the Director. You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes.

You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

Contact: Jackie Ellice; Leanne Baines; Daniella Eggink
Calgary Region, Child and Family Services
Phone: (403) 297-2978

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR Permanent Guardianship Order To Randy Adams

Take notice that on the **10th day of August 2015 at 9:30 a.m.**, at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom #1205, 601 - 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, a hearing will take place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for: **Custody Order; Permanent Guardianship Order** of your children born on **January 5, 2007 and July 13, 2004**. If you wish to speak to this matter in court, you **MUST** appear in court on this date. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you do not attend in person or by a lawyer, an Order may be made in your absence and the Judge may make a different Order than the one being applied for by the Director. You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes.

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WEEKEND, July 31 - August 3, 2015

THE KOHLER REPORT: ON BARE BREASTS



Police officers need to accept that no matter how uncomfortable, nervous or randy a topless lady might make them feel, female bodies aren't indecent.

I used to date a guy who loved to take his shirt off. His favourite place in which to go topless was any sunny one, any hot one or, really, any public one. It wasn't long before I realized he was a douchebag and broke it off. That said, as much as he was a dipstick, had a police officer ever stopped him and told him to put a shirt on, I would have been appalled. In Canada, each of us has a right to be a topless douchebag.

Headlines went gaga this week for three sisters in Kitchener-Waterloo, Ont. They were stopped by police while bike riding top-nude. According to the sisters, the officers'

first concern was that they cover up, but when one of the ladies started recording the interaction, police concern mysteriously turned from breasts to bicycle safety (bells, lights, helmets etc.) It seems they knew not to challenge a bare breast on camera.

The long-short story of toplessness in Canada goes something like: In 1991, Gwen Jacob was arrested and found guilty for walking home from the University of Guelph topless (the charge was indecency). In 1996, the Ontario Court of Appeal acquitted Jacob which kinda-pretty-much made it legal for women to go topless in Ontario (a decision

which heavily influenced the rest of Canada. Though, as the sisters' ordeal illustrates, the issue is subject to local interpretation — and the selective memories of police.

And now, 20 years later, ladies are still having problems hanging out.

Here's the thing: There are about 13 reasons I personally wouldn't go topless, ranging from quality of breast to fear of burnt areolas to, yes, fear of someone thinking I'm a douchebag. But these are my personal neuroses, and just because I wouldn't do it doesn't mean I don't want to know I could do it without someone scolding or humiliat-

ing me. I get enough of that in my Boot Camp class at the Y.

Police officers need to be informed and need to accept that, no matter how uncomfortable, nervous or randy a topless lady might make them feel, female bodies aren't indecent.

Consider: Last month, a topless 8-year-old girl was asked to cover up at a public pool in Guelph, Ont. Isn't that gross? It was her first lesson in the difference between the sexes. There is nothing sexual about a little girl, so why ask her to put on a shirt? Because she needs to know that this is the way it's going to be. It's like training wheels for being oppressed.

While the seasonal climate might be right to go topless, we need to improve the social one, big time. I say it's time we train them. Take it all off, ladies! (Unless you don't want to!) I think we should saturate our culture in breasts until the only people that find it distracting are hungry babies.

Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter @becca_kohler.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

We may need to see the perils of smart weapons to believe



We've always excelled at imagining our own demise.

It's cathartic to sink into a story of ultimate despair, then emerge to see that it's not that bad, yet. No need to worry.

But the heavy brains of the world aren't just worrying, but urging us to wake up and smell the impending doom.

Top artificial-intelligence researchers and science figures, including Elon Musk and Stephen Hawking, issued a dire warning this week.

Artificial intelligence is "the third revolution in warfare, after gunpowder and nuclear arms," they wrote in an open letter. "The key question for humanity today is whether to start a global AI arms race or to prevent it from starting."

"Experts warn of killer robots," shouted the headlines. Enter your preferred pop-culture reference (mine's The Matrix).

At the University of Alberta, computer science professor Csaba Szepesvari was one of the letter's signatories. He studies how computers can process data in a way that lets them learn and make decisions, a critical step to operating intelligently and independently of humans.

With AI, "War becomes quite a different game," he said. "Compassionate decisions are removed."

It's not a matter of terminator cyborgs, necessarily;

AI technology is becoming cheap and accessible enough that something more rudimentary but no less deadly — like a quadrotor armed with a bomb — could appear in years, not decades.

"The scariest part of it is you start to give it autonomy," Szepesvari said. Then, imagine it's infected by a bug — or hacked.

The signatories envision a different future, one in which AI is used for good.

Computers could design, execute and analyze their own experiments. Autonomous cars are here, and researchers have been developing AI robots to respond to disasters.

"There is a lot of hype around AI and a lot of misunderstanding," Szepesvari said. Killer robots aren't going to wipe out humans in 10 years, he noted, but "Average folk should pressure their governments to prevent this arms race."

I'm not sure I trust militaries to resist the temptation, or at the very least, I have a bad case of the cynicals. Industrialized societies seem addicted to invention and allergic to preparing for the consequences. Many turning points in climate-change action came only after people began to witness its effects. When it comes to the peril of AI weapons, will we need to see it to believe it?

And then, will it be too late?

Happy face/Sad face

From **missing mixtapes** to **troves of treasure**, Metro weighs in on the news making headlines this week



Historic hip-hop heist

Legendary DJ Grandmaster Flash has had his record collection — and a piece of music history — stolen from a New York parking garage. A valet was duped into giving the DJ's car, and three crates of rare, vintage, vinyl records, to an imposter. The artist, whose real name is Joseph Saddler, had the records because he was working on a TV show about the 1970s music scene. Saddler was one of the first to combine rap lyrics with cut-up funk and soul tracks to create a new genre: hip-hop.

SOURCE: BBC



Singing loud and free, finally

Happy birthday to ... stop right there, or you'll have to pay. But that may be about to change. Happy Birthday to You, which dates to the 1890s, is still under copyright. Now, a film crew is suing the song's owner, Warner/Chappell, claiming they have proof it should be in the public domain: A 1927 reprint that predates Warner's 1935 copyright by eight years. If a judge agrees, the song could soon be a free accompaniment to ice cream and cake.

SOURCE: WASHINGTON POST



Caped crusader with car trouble

Drivers on Ontario's Highway 401 near Napanee on Sunday were agape as they watched Batman, in his Batsuit, working on his Batmobile. Stephen Lawrence — a.k.a. the Brampton Batman — was driving home from a charity event when he heard an odd noise and stopped to inspect the problem. But by then, traffic was backed up with people trying to glimpse the masked man working on his vehicle without the aid of superpowers.

SOURCE: THE CANADIAN PRESS



Fishing for a fortune in Florida

Members of a Florida family who have been diving in the Atlantic for treasure for years have finally struck gold. Rick and Lisa Schmitt and their children found \$1 million worth of gold artifacts from the wreckage of a 1715 Spanish fleet. The booty included 51 coins and 12 metres of gold chain, according to Fleet-Queens Jewels, which owns the wreckage. (The Schmitts were diving under a contract). The spoils will be split between the company, the Schmitts and a museum. SOURCE: REUTERS

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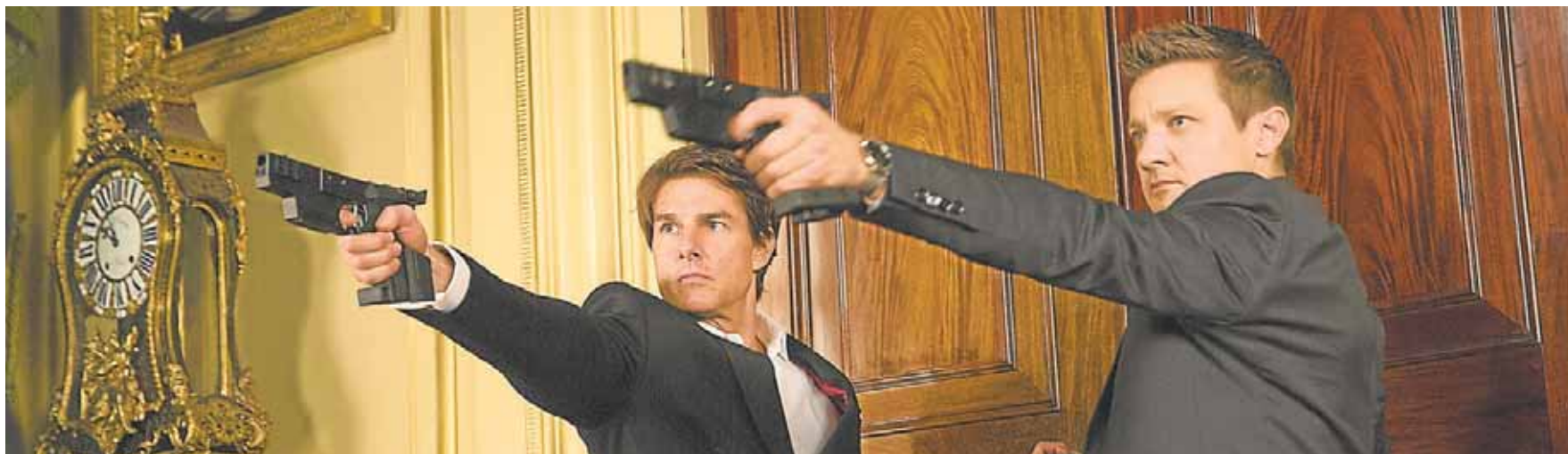
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Tom Cruise and Jeremy Renner star in Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation. DAVID JAMES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Real stunts add to the action

ACTION

It's not just nostalgia for pre-CG days, stunts impress

IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse



Check the IMDB page for Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation. You'll learn that Tom Cruise clung to the outside of an Airbus A400M at an elevation of 5000 feet, held his breath for six minutes underwater and performed dangerous driving scenes all without the aid of an

on-camera stuntperson.

It's not that he is trying to break the stunt union or put anyone out of work. Instead it is Cruise's commitment to making sure the stunts in his films have a true, palpable sense of danger to them.

Much of what we see on screen these days is computer generated, illusions made up of bits and bytes, but many of the truly eye catching images we've seen in movies this summer were created the old fashioned way.

Remember the "car drop" scene from Furious 7? Stunt co-ordinator (and former Knight Rider stunt driver) Jack Gill actually arranged for autos to be launched out of a C-130 Hercules four-engine turboprop military transport aircraft. They shot the scene twice. First aerial photog-

raphers in parachutes followed the cars as they dove from an altitude of 12,000 feet and then again from 8000 feet to get helicopter shots. The result is a wild sequence that feels like a roller-coaster ride with real cars.

After years of "following the CG evolution," using computer generated images to create beautiful animated films like Happy Feet and Babe: A Pig in the City, Mad Max: Fury Road director George Miller says he was keen to go back to "old school" filmmaking "with real cars and real people and real desert."

That means, unlike the Avengers and their ilk, respecting the laws of physics by using practical effects and keeping the action earthbound. In other words, in a call back to the original Max films — Mad Max, Mad Max 2:

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation ★★★★★
Vacation ★★★
A Lego Brickumentary ★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★★ SEE IT
★★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

The Road Warrior and Beyond Thunderdome — when a car blows up it doesn't rocket into space. Instead it explodes spectacularly but organically. The wild action you see in Fury Road are actual stunts performed by stunt men and women and not generated by a clever computer operator in a studio. "It was like going back to your old home town and looking at it anew," Miller says.

Nicholas Hoult, who plays Nux

in Fury Road, says having the stunts performed for real added to his performance.

"Because it was all real it actually makes your job a lot easier," he said. "Rather than being on a stage and having to pretend that things are happening around you and react to nothing, things are actually happening and your reactions are real."

Carla Gugino says there was quite a bit of greenscreen action in her earthquake movie San

Andreas, but adds director Brad Peyton "wanted to do as much in camera as possible."

In one pivotal scene she and Dwayne Johnson are in a helicopter flying above the carnage.

"The helicopter was in a stage, on a greenscreen," she says, "but was on a gimbal many, many feet up that literally dropped, dove and spun. We were twenty-five feet off the ground."

"I think it makes a difference in watching the movie too. It feels much more viscerally connected."

So filmmakers and actors love giving audiences the real deal thrill of practical effects, but how did Tom Cruise, what feel about hanging on to the side of an aircraft in full flight?

"I was actually scared s—less," he says.

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MOVIE NEWS**Latest in spy franchise arrives at perfect time**

"This may very well be our last mission," says Jeremy Renner's character, IMF agent William Brandt, in *Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation*. If it is the last, or one of the last, with Tom Cruise as lead, then the team looks to go out with a bang, and Paramount Pictures is keen to give this week's release *Rogue Nation* every chance of success.

With the new release landscape looking relatively clear of challengers in the coming months, *Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation* could be Hollywood's biggest action film for the rest of the summer season after its July 31 debut.

Budgets for *Mission: Impossible* films have stabilized at around \$150M, and for 2011's *Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol* that budget translated into a franchise record \$695M box office take.

If *Rogue Nation* does the same it would become the fifth biggest hit of the year — at least until *Star Wars* and *Spectre* arrive.

AFP

THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

Even after reading *Going Clear: Scientology, Hollywood & the Prison of Belief*, I can still suspend my disbelief when I see Tom Cruise on the big screen. He is Maverick; he is Jack Reacher; he is Ethan Hunt.

On July 31, Cruise is back in *Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation*. Hunt's team has been disbanded by the new CIA boss (Alec Baldwin) but when a multinational group of ex-operatives goes rogue, they must save the day. There are motorcycle and car chases and shirtless martial arts and gun fights.

That sounds like my action-

Tom Cruise is back in *Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation*. There are motorcycle and car chases and shirtless martial arts and gun fights. That sounds like my action-packed kitchen when I make a pie

packed kitchen when I make a pie. There are life-and-death decisions that need to be made, starting with: What will I put in the pie? What I am about to say will be so controversial that you may hope this story self-destructs: I do not mix fruit. I want blueberry pie — not blueberry and peach pie. And I know that strawberries will help cut the sour of rhubarb but why in hell would I want to do that?

Then there's the crust itself. First of all, humidity, temperature, even altitude, need to be considered, although I never consider them. Also, the clock is ticking: Overwork the pastry and you'll get a brick, plus, none of the ingredients can't get too warm. Speaking of ingredients, pie crust may only

THE MOVIE:
Mission Impossible**THE DISH:**
Rhubarb pie

be flour, fat and water, but it's the most contentious recipe in the history of mankind. Because what fat will you choose to make it?

I spoke with 10 Canadian home bakers who were all pie-

making champions for one of the first stories I ever wrote for *Maclean's*. They all used either lard (rendered pork fat, like Tenderflake) or shortening for their flaky, winning crusts. But professional bakers almost

always use butter, which is far less forgiving but produces a better-tasting pastry.

I've attempted dozens of variations, from all-butter recipes to the one that's on the Crisco box. But I've never rolled out a crust without swearing. That being said, a combination of fats bodes best for me. "Butter gives the pastry its flavour and texture," Julia Child wrote in *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, while vegetable shortening "has a tenderizing effect that almost all American flours seem to need."

On Sunday, I set out to make a rhubarb pie using half butter and half shortening. I had exactly the two-and-a-half cups of flour that the Joy of Cooking recipe called for. Jackpot! Only, it smelled musty (I haven't baked since Christmas) and that left me nothing for rolling out the pastry. Off to the grocery store I went. Eventually, I pulled from the oven something resembling a pie. It didn't look like Martha Stewart made it. But it was delicious. Maybe, as Stewart herself might say, that's a good thing.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

INTERVIEW

Mission: Possible — Actress overcame vertigo to do stunts

Richard Crouse
For Metro

When Rebecca Ferguson was cast as Ilsa Faust in *Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation*, she didn't know exactly what she was getting into. "This is a *Mission* film," says the Swedish actress. "You process that in your head. It means action. I don't know what kind of action, but it will be action."

Ferguson,

who is best known for period dramas like BBC's *The White Queen* and *The Cousin's War*, expected the role would be physical, but adds, "they were kind enough not to inform me about the high jumps that were to be held on the first day of shooting."

She describes her first stunt, a 75-foot leap from the roof of the Vienna Opera House, as, "completely, absolutely gob-smackingly terrifying."

"I told them, 'Look, I'm great underwater. I

dive. I love all that. Jumping off buildings? I'm thinking no.' They said, 'That's fine. We have stunt doubles.' I went, 'Stunt doubles? No, no, no, no, no. What do I have to do?'"

For weeks she trained six hours a day to meet the physical demands of the shoot and mentally prepared to overcome her vertigo for the Opera House stunt. "We just worked our way up and got to 75 feet," she says. "I did the jump."

What went through her mind as she stepped off the building? "Don't look down and keep your legs wrapped tightly around Tom. Jump and look cool."

She says she was not forced into the stunt and could always have said no, but ultimately enjoyed doing it.

"I love the intensity of the action sequences. There is an energy that is just incredible and your heart is beating."

The 32-year-old actress, who will next be seen opposite Meryl Streep in the Stephen Frears film *Florence Foster Jenkins*, says in those moments of stress she becomes very focused. Later though, the weight of the situation sinks in.

"After," she says, "it hits me. I go, 'Is that Tom Cruise? Am I kicking ass with Tom Cruise?'"



Rebecca Ferguson did all her own stunts in *Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation*. CHIABELLA JAMES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation

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Starring: Tom Cruise, Rebecca Ferguson

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ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
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COMEDY

Vacation

Director: John Francis Daley, Jonathan M. Goldstein
Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Ed Helms

Ed Helms stars in this reboot of the Vacation series as Rusty Griswald, the son of Chevy Chase's iconic character in the original four films. Horrible Bosses' helmers John Francis Daley and Jonathan M. Goldstein write and direct.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
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DRAMA

Southpaw

Director: Antoine Fuqua
Starring: Jake Gyllenhaal, Rachel McAdams

Billy Hope seemingly has it all with an impressive career, an adoring family and a lavish lifestyle. When tragedy strikes and his lifelong manager and friend (Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson) leaves him behind, Hope hits rock bottom and turns to an unlikely saviour at a run-down local gym.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
50% 78%



DRAMA & COMEDY

Infinitely Polar Bear

Director: Maya Forbes
Starring: Mark Ruffalo, Zoe Saldana

Maya Forbes' autobiographically inflected Infinitely Polar Bear stars Mark Ruffalo as a man who suffers from bipolar disorder, as he attempts to rebuild a relationship with his two daughters and win back the trust of his wife.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
81% 77%



DOCUMENTARY

A Lego Brickumentary

Director: Daniel Junge, Kief Davidson
Starring: Jason Bateman, Jamie Berard

This documentary playfully delves into the extraordinary impact of the LEGO brick, its massive global fan base, and the innovative uses for it that has sprung up around the world.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
43% +90%



DRAMA

Irrational Man

Director: Woody Allen
Starring: Joaquin Phoenix, Emma Stone, Parker Posey

When a burned-out, brilliant professor — one who believes in lessons from life rather than books — takes a job at a small college, everyone there is abuzz. He becomes involved with a teacher and a student, but it takes a dramatic, existential act to turn his life around.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
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JAMIE BLACKLEY

JOAQUIN PHOENIX

PARKER POSEY

EMMA STONE

“WOODY ALLEN IS IN FINE VINTAGE FORM

A darkly humorous quasi-thriller propelled all the way by the sparky chemistry of Joaquin Phoenix and Emma Stone.”

- David Rooney, THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

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THE NEW YORK TIMES

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Lego the new film on the block

A LEGO BRICKUMENTARY

Documentary builds on the iconic toy's endless appeal

Steve Gow
For Metro

Oscar-nominated filmmakers Kief Davidson and Daniel Junge want to teach you something about Lego.

That's right, Lego — the world-renowned plastic toy brick. Sure, everyone has fond childhood memories of constructing spaceships or houses out of the interlocking blocks. Most can even empathize with the pinching sensation of stepping on a specifically sharp-angled chunk buried in shag carpeting. But Davidson and Junge are banking you don't know everything about Lego.

In the new documentary, *A Lego Brickumentary*, the co-directing duo take a light-hearted look at Denmark's biggest export — a toy that has been enjoyed by generations and grown into an empire of video games, theme parks and a hit Hollywood movie — not to mention its other astonishing attributes.

"As we realized some of the more serious applications of this so-called toy, that turned out to be surprising," admitted co-director Junge in a recent interview. "How Lego is being used in engineering, architecture, in space."



Life in plastic, it's fantastic for Thorin Finch seen playing with his Lego collection in the new film *A Lego Brickumentary*. CONTRIBUTED

Some of the more serious applications of this so-called toy, turned out to be surprising. How Lego is being used in engineering, architecture, in space

Daniel Junge, co-director of *A Lego Brickumentary*

Lego as innovation

A Lego Brickumentary unveils just some of the unique ways the simple toy has been adopted by thinkers to design everything from a livable two-storey house to group therapy for kids with autism. "Adults are fascinated about some of the stuff that they had no idea about," said Junge of the toy's innovations.

"Things like engineering and city-planning and even therapy."

Lego as community builder

Whether it's the staggering number of fans attending conventions or endorsements by celebrities like singer Ed Sheeran, the film explores the growing communal aspect of Lego. "The expansiveness of the commun-

ity was surprising," said Junge. "When you've been to one of these conventions and actually experience all that creativity firsthand, it's amazing."

Lego as art

New York-based artist Nathan Sawaya is a central figure in the film. A former lawyer, Sawaya quit to create Lego sculptures

that have since amassed many awards and been featured around the globe.

"What he's done is so inspiring," said Davidson.

"He's been able to bring art to kids that may have had no exposure to the art world at all. He's made it more acceptable (and) there's no question that his work is having an impact."



MAYBE NOT

Toying with film ideas

Teddy Ruxpin While this talking plush toy would make a terrifying horror film character, it's unlikely to get its own documentary. Toys don't get less interesting than a dopey-looking teddy bear with an antiquated cassette player wedged into its backside.

Stretch Armstrong This malleable action figure that could be stretched up to four-feet probably won't be featured in a documentary — unless it's some environmental exposé on how that mysterious goo inside is destroying the ecosystem.

Rubik's Cube This 1980's combination puzzle doesn't have much cinematic merit — unless you enjoy watching frustrated people fiddling with a toy for four hours.

Lite-Brite A simple box housing a 25-watt light bulb illuminating a matrix of holes designed for small colored plastic pegs, Lite-Brite has always been as intense as watching paint dry.

STEVE GOW/FOR METRO

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The founding fathers of punditry

PIONEERS

A war of words: commentators drop their gloves on TV

Steve Gow
For Metro

When director Morgan Neville was first presented with old footage of debates between highbrow thinkers Gore Vidal and William F. Buckley, he had no idea it was going to make such great cinema.

"(I thought) there might be a documentary here but we didn't know the context," recalled Neville, who teamed up with co-director Robert

Gordon. "Here are these two amazing characters speaking like I don't see people speaking on television today. I felt like it could lead to a lot of interesting places."

Where it led was to an insightful, acclaimed exploration about the moment when television news changed forever in *Best of Enemies* — the highly-anticipated follow-up to Neville's Oscar-winning film *Twenty Feet From Stardom*.

During the 1968 Democratic and Republican national conventions, politically-disparate commentators Buckley and Vidal were hired to fill some time for TV's lowliest broadcaster through a series of cheaply-produced debates. In turn, the two men (who apparently detested each other) brought in huge ratings — so much so that their heated ex-

changes initiated the dawn of pundit news that's so prevalent today.

"In the old TV world, there just wasn't a lot of debate. There wasn't even much commentary on TV news," said Neville, who once held a job as fact-checker for Vidal.

"Now we have whole channels that are basically debate or commentary. The reality is it's cheap and you don't need

intelligent people throwing out sparks — you just need the sparks. Anyone can do that."

While that may be true, *Best of Enemies* illustrates that nobody on television today even comes close to competing with the sheer wit, intelligence and impassioned hostility on display in those 1968 battles between Buckley and Vidal.

"I think they had respect for each other insofar as they thought the other was dangerous," said Neville of the two political sages who barely keep from coming to blows in the film. "There was never any hint of anything warm. Somebody once suggested to me they were frienemies, but no, there's no friends here — this was straight-up, old-school enemy."



Someone once suggested to me they were frienemies, but no, there's no friends here.

Morgan Neville, co-director of *Best of Enemies*



"The reason that Vidal (pictured right) and Buckley (left) worked as public figures on TV so much was that they understood the theatre of it," said filmmaker Morgan Neville.

HANDOUT



TELLING THE TRUTH



Morgan Neville, director. HANDOUT

The fact-checker

Filmmaker Morgan Neville once worked as a fact-checker for Gore Vidal out of college.

"It was horrible," recalled Neville. "He needed very little fact-checking but occasionally there were small things that I had to tweak (and) he would yell at me. He didn't like being contradicted ever."

STEVE GOW/FOR METRO

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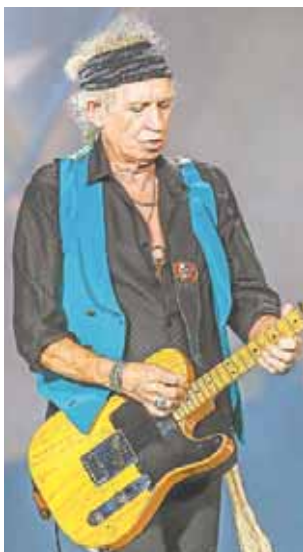
DOCS ON ROCK 'N' ROLL LEGENDS TO WATCH OUT FOR

From Amy to Montage of Heck, it seems to be the year of the music documentary, and the trend shows no signs of slowing. Rogers Waters recently revealed the trailer for his upcoming film, a movie about Frank Zappa has been announced, and now Keith Richards will be featured in a documentary coming to Netflix in September **AFP**

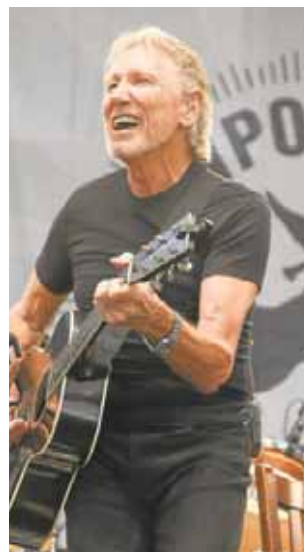
1 Under the Influence

This documentary about Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards will be released the same day Richards unleashes his first solo album in more than 20 years, *Crosseyed Heart*. Directed by Oscar-winner Morgan Neville (*20 Feet from Stardom*), the film is said to be an "unprecedented look into the sounds and influences" of the iconic musician, following him as he prepares his album and looking at the music that inspires him, from electric blues to country honky-tonk and southern soul, via visits to Chicago, Nashville and New York. Intimate conversations with Richards and rare archival materials are promised.

Sept. 18, on Netflix

**2 The Wall**

Pink Floyd's Roger Waters will also release a film in September. *The Wall* is being called equal parts live concert, rock documentary and personal journey. At its centre will be the three-year tour Waters undertook to bring a live performance of Pink Floyd's 1979 album to fans around the globe. Behind the scenes, meanwhile, we will watch a personal story unfold, as Waters comes to terms with the death of his father in 1944. **Sept. 29, global release**

**3 Next up: Frank Zappa**

Announced last week, a documentary on the innovative musician Frank Zappa, with the approval of his family trust, is expected to see the light of day in a few years. Variety reported that Alex Winter (*Deep Web*) is set to direct from a script he wrote and has already begun production, although few details are known for now. The singer, songwriter, instrumentalist and composer, who died in 1993, innovated and experimented with rock, jazz and classical music over the course of his career. His 100th and final album, *Dance Me This*, released earlier this year. **2017, pending family approval**

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Married, with children on the road

INTERVIEW

Applegate hits the road in the latest of the Vacation series



Ned Ehrbar
Metro|Hollywood

Christina Applegate takes the ultimate American family road trip in *Vacation*, but she didn't necessarily have a lot of personal experience to draw upon.

The movie looks like it was fun to make.

Luckily for us, we had a group of people that made it really fun. Some of the circumstances physically were kind of difficult, but we all were going through it together. This group isn't a group to complain, so it all was fine.

What kind of circumstances?

Hanging upside down (on a stopped roller-coaster). That

one pushed me over the edge. That was one of those moments that they were like, "OK, can you just do the scene one more time?" And I was like, "No. Turn us back around."

Everyone else seemed to be fine, but I really thought I was going to pass out or something really bad was going to happen to my brain.

Roller-coasters were never really my idea of fun.

I always love a good roller-coaster, but that one was a tad rickety for me. When you feel like, "Wow, this actually could give me whiplash," that's never a good sign.

Have you gone on many family road trips yourself?

I didn't really have a family, so much. I grew up with a single mom as an only child.

My dad's family, we would go camping sometimes in his pop-top VW bus when I was a little kid, and I really enjoyed those. But my mom and I never really went on road trips. Well, we went to Tijuana once when I was like seven, but that was it.

What made you want to go to Tijuana?

Ask her, because I don't understand it at all. No offense to Tijuana, but a seven-year-old and a woman, at that time in the '70s — it wasn't the safest of areas.

Your character has some interesting layers. What was your favorite aspect of her?

They had written a pretty rounded character, but I was just like, "Let's bring something in that we haven't seen." I wanted her to have a past, to have an edge, because to me that's the modern mom right now, the modern mom that I hang out with. I really wanted to make sure we represented the modern mom — these people who have come from kind of crazy places but have put their lives together and are these incredible moms because they've learned so much by the mistakes of their own parents, but we're also still kind of dark and twisty and edgy, and I kind of love that because I haven't seen that kind of mom represented a lot in movies.



Christina Applegate and Ed Helms having some good, clean fun playing the Griswolds in the family comedy *Vacation*. HOPPER STONE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CRITICISM

Comedic magic cannot be replicated

The modern comedy remake is among the most laughable of movie genres.

In Hollywood's reboot frenzy, the movie industry has increasingly turned to reviving classic comedies, only to find that few things are harder to rekindle than the elusive elements — Bill Murray's timing, John Belushi's eyebrows — that make up a great comedy. The distance between original and remake is usually as vast as it is between Caddyshack and Caddyshack II.

The latest attempt is Vacation,

a new try at the classic National Lampoon series that first emanated from John Hughes' short story Vacation '58 and was launched with the 1983 Chevy Chase original. Chase makes a cameo in the latest Vacation, but he has ceded the driver's seat to his son, Rusty Griswold (Ed Helms).

In some quarters, the movie has not been warmly anticipated. In a column for the Hollywood Reporter, former National Lampoon editor P.J. O'Rourke judged the film from its trailer "post-humorous" and "a summer cineplex dump-fill featuring the Hangover wimp dentist as leading man."

Whether screwball or satire, comedy only works when it feels bracingly alive. Most remakes, though, tend to feel like

they've been brought back from the dead, only with all the really good jokes left back in the cemetery.

Hollywood is devoted to getting it right though. The biggest test will come next July when Paul Feig releases his big-budget Ghostbusters. Feig, at least, has had the good sense to try an entirely different track, recasting the leads as female, including Melissa McCarthy and Kirsten Wiig.

But there are many others in various stages of quixotic development, including remakes of Meatballs, Fletch, Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure and Police Academy.

With that in mind, here are a few lessons to draw from an often dubious tradition.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



PINK PANTHER

Big shoes to fill

More often than not, the best advice is just put down the script and walk away. Such was the case for Shawn Levy's The Pink Panther, which somehow managed to earn a 2009 sequel.

Steve Martin is a tremendous performer, but no one should be attempting to follow in the clumsy footsteps of Peter Sellers' Inspector Clouseau. (Martin has been a curiously frequent remake star, including two Father of the Bride films and the somewhat better Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, which came from the Marlon Brando, David Niven 1964 original.)



THE LADYKILLERS

Even the Coens can't do it

It's a testament to the difficulty of the task if even Joel and Ethan Coen whiff it. The comedies produced by London's Ealing Studios in the 1940s and '50s are comedy royalty that few would have the courage to tackle. But the Coens tried it with The Ladykillers in 2004, attempting a broader comedy that traded Tom Hanks and Mississippi for Alec Guinness and London.

It's among the Coens weaker films, though they can argue that they fell into directing it. They were first signed up just to write the script, but took over directing for Barry Sonnenfeld when he dropped out.

Worth noting, though, is that by staying true to the Charles Portis novel, the Coens did give us easily the best True Grit.



NEW GUARD

Persona non grata

Russell Brand is no Dudley Moore. And Adam Sandler isn't Burt Reynolds. Brand and Sandler both have their particular talents, but neither were well suited heirs to their remakes of Arthur — the 2011 version of Moore's 1981 film — and The Longest Yard, which had Sandler sliding in for Reynolds in the 2005 prison football comedy.

Both originals, like many comedies, drew considerably from the distinct personas of their stars, making for an out of whack chemistry in the remakes. Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick had an even higher bar to meet in taking over for Mel Brooks and Zero Mostel in the 2005 film The Producers. If only someone had thought to try it as a Broadway musical instead.



REMAKES THAT WORKED

But it has been done...

An unavoidable fact is that a few of the very best comedies ever made were remakes. The zippy brilliance of Howard Hawks' His Girl Friday (1940) came nine years after the play it was based on, The Front Page, had been turned into a film. It would be tried again, too, in 1974 by Billy Wilder with Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau and in 1988 — a lamentable swap of TV news for the newspaper biz starring Reynolds. And Wilder's Some Like it Hot, that majestically madcap 1959 comedy, was based on a 1935 French film called Fanfares of Love. When the screenplay couldn't be found, producer Walter Mirisch tracked down a German remake of it for Wilder to write from. In the movies, originality can be a mangled, many-authored thing. Nobody's perfect.



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'This isn't just reunion rock'

VERUCA SALT

Forgiveness rock: Original members release new LP

Lisa Weidenfeld
For Metro

Alt-rock band Veruca Salt seemed fated to be a one-hit wonder.

The band experienced a brief period of intense skyrocketing fame in the '90s, led by dual vocalists Nina Gordon and Louise Post, and a massively popular single, Seether, before falling apart after the two had a huge blowout. Gordon left the band, and while Post and the gang continued without her, it was clear something was missing.

But not all breaks last forever. In recent years, the two tentatively got back in touch and found that their creative connection was still just as powerful. That reconciliation resulted in a new album, Ghost

Notes, which came out July 10.

Rebuilding one of the most significant relationships in your life is rather inspirational, it turns out.

"The album is so charged with all of the emotion of these past 15 years and everything we went through with the break up, with the time apart," says Gordon, 47. "The album tells that story, so now that it's out there, we both can breathe a sigh of relief."

If it seems like it might be a little awkward for two musicians to be writing music about each other, Gordon says the experience was rather cathartic. "All of that stuff we've been carrying around for all those years, it's sort of like — poof! — and now it's gone. We can truly let go of all of that."

Their initial reunion, after all those years apart, was a powerful experience for them both.

"Louise came over to my house and we sang a couple of songs together and it ended in a complete puddle of tears. I was so happy to hear our voices together again. It was sublime."



Original members Steve Lack, Louise Post, Nina Gordon and Jim Shapiro reunite for a new album and summer tour. HANDOUT

And if you have concerns about the band not quite sounding like you'd expect from the Veruca Salt of old, don't be. "The shocking part is how much we sound like Veruca Salt," says Gordon. "This isn't just reunion rock. We are

going to make the record that we were supposed to make back then."

Though Gordon worked as a solo musician during their years apart, she's not exactly missing that life. Rejoining the band is "a huge relief."

Part of the relief of reuniting is a chance to set things right for their fans.

"We fell apart and we felt like we let them down, especially because of the way things ended. We're feminists and it ended in this stupid catfight

and we felt really ashamed about that over the years," says Gordon.

Luckily, the music they're making now will serve to correct that narrative.

"There's something so beautiful about living with regret and sadness about something, thinking that the door is closed, and finding out that there actually is a way to heal and reconcile and an old dear friend can come back into your life and you can start over," says Gordon.

"You don't really hear about friendships. You hear about divorces and celebrity divorces, but falling out of a female friendship is so brutal. It really is so brutal when it's somebody that you depend on and lean on so much. It really is beautiful to feel forgiveness, to feel forgiven and bury the hatchet."

And that's the message she hopes their fans can take from the reunion.

"It ain't over till it's over, and there is hope when two people really care about each other and have this kind of chemistry with one another. It's meant to be."



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Despite retirement, dog show will go on

FROM WAGS TO RICHES

Reality TV has gone to the dogs

For years, Bill Berloni has taught his dogs to play make believe. Now, he's making it real.

The dog trainer teaches rescues to beg, bark and bow or sit, stand and shake for movies, TV and the Broadway stage. Once the animal actors retire, he brings them home to join his 30 dogs, one cat, farm animals and singing macaw that swears like a sailor.

He is bringing the motley crew to reality TV in *From Wags to Riches* with Bill Berloni, the Discovery Family Channel's first original series, debuting next week.

Berloni's stable of stars — all found from shelters — have appeared in Broadway shows, touring companies, special events, the New York City Ballet, movies, television and commercials. He estimates he's rescued 150 dogs since 1977.

Berloni, 58, who was recognized by the Tony Awards for excellence in the theatre, has been approached about a reality series before. He says he gave this one the green light because "there aren't many shows about good people doing good things."

Some animal-welfare groups denounce animals in entertainment, but Berloni believes dogs were made for show business. He says he would never train a wild animal, but he does transform rough-and-tumble pooches into top actors.

A chihuahua named Chico, prone to biting and about to be euthanized at the pound,

went on to play Bruiser in *Legally Blonde: The Musical*. Berloni worked with Chico until he could bark on cue and run into his carrier whenever an actress says, "White shoes after Labour Day." Now, that tiny pooch sleeps in the crook of his arm.

"Chico lives for me, and you can't help but respond to that. It is a huge responsibility," the self-taught trainer said.

Dogs are hardest to train for the stage, Berloni said. Unlike TV and film, there is no editing button, and it's impossible to mask distractions from audiences and actors.

The dog he trained to play Sandy in the original stage production of *Annie* in 1977 eyeballed the audience as theatregoers in the front row were munching on fried chicken. But Sandy didn't leave the stage, Berloni said.

Annie was a huge hit, and Sandy became the longest-running dog actor on Broadway — she didn't miss a performance in seven years. Sandy gave Berloni his start training celebrity dogs. He was working at an opera house in Connecticut, where he

+ WATCH

Showtime

From Wags to Riches with Bill Berloni, is on at 9 p.m. EDT Aug. 6, on the Discovery Family Channel.

and his family live on a farm in Higganum, when a producer asked him to find and train the dog for *Annie*.

Things are a bit less glamorous on the reality show, which is wrapping up its first four episodes.

At home, Berloni's salty macaw rules the roost. The bird named Kevin turns the kitchen sink into his stage, belting out tunes such as *Tomorrow* and *It's Raining Men*. Despite his outrageous personality, Kevin has never acted, unlike his fellow pets.

"He is only a star in our living room," Berloni said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Bill Berloni
HANDOUT

ANIMALS

Meet Earl: grumpy puppy, darling of the Internet

Mike Lee

For Metro In New York

Earl the Grumpy Dog, meet the Internet. Internet, meet Earl the Grumpy Dog.

Earl is a five-month old little pup with serious underbite that makes him look like he's frowning.

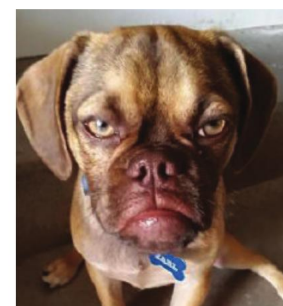
"He's as healthy as any other puppy. He just looks grumpy because of his underbite, wrinkles, and dark complexion," Earl's owner told Yahoo News. "He is the most relaxed, content puppy

either one of us has ever seen."

Earl first gained Internet fame when his picture was posted to Reddit.

It was there that some redditors commented and upvoted the grumpy pup to stardom. "This dog looks like he pays taxes," user grundo1561 wrote.

Earl may very well have to pay taxes, that is if his owner can parlay Earl's Internet fame into the movies, cups, T-shirts and menagerie of junk that blossomed from Grumpy Cat's fame.



Earl has an underbite that makes him look like he's perpetually in the worst mood ever. HANDOUT



Dove Cameron performs for the crowd at the post-premiere party for Descendants at Walt Disney Studios on July 24. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Evil inherited

DISNEY

Descendants intros the next generation of evil villains

Actress Dove Cameron says playing the daughter of evil sorceress Maleficent in the new Disney Channel original movie Descendants reminded her of the bullies who picked on her as a kid — bullies she now has empathy for.

Premiering Friday on Family Channel (at 8 p.m. ET), the live-action adventure-comedy is a contemporary look at the children of Disney villains, including Maleficent, Cruella de Vil and Jafar.

Cameron says her character Mal is particularly powerful, with a super power and sarcastic attitude that make her both feared and revered by many of her schoolmates.

But she also has a vulnerable quality that Cameron says she worked “really hard” to inject her with in order to give her depth.

“I was bullied in school and I firmly believe that the only people that want to cause other people harm are the ones that have been so incredibly harmed in their lives that they don’t know what else to do,” said the 19-year-old star of the TV series Liv and Maddie.

“So kids of villains and bullies and people who lash out are really the most fragile ones, and they’re the ones who are living in the most fear.”

Filmed in and around Vancouver, the story is set in the kingdom of Auradon, where the teenage son of Beast and Belle, from Beauty and the Beast, offers the villains’ children a chance at redemption.

Emmy Award winner Kenny Ortega directed and choreographed. Canadian-born Paul Becker co-choreographed.

Cameron said they were able to create their own backstories to their characters. With Mal, she decided that her persona is partly a result of not knowing her father.

“The only example she has is the most evil woman in the world. What kid wouldn’t turn out to be a little messed up with a mother like Maleficent?” she said.

“So she has a hard time finding her way, and she’s also dealing with adolescence and peers and school and all of these other normal-kid things, which I think is a really appealing part about our movie — is that they’re so normal and they’re some of the most mythical characters to ever live.”

Other cast members include Cameron Boyce as Carlos, son of Cruella de Vil from 101 Dalmatians; Sofia Carson

as Evie, daughter of the Evil Queen from Snow White; and Booboo Stewart as Jay, son of Jafar from Aladdin.

Tony Award-winning stage and screen star Kristin Chenoweth plays Maleficent.

Cameron says Chenoweth has been her “hero” since she was seven, noting she often listened to her songs because they’re both coloratura sopranos.

“It’s not even in that way where I liked her when I was little and now that she’s playing the role I’m saying she’s my hero,” said Cameron. “Like, she was my hero.”

It just so happened that Maleficent was also Cameron’s favourite Disney villain growing up.

“I remember when I was little and there were auditions for a local kids production of The Nutcracker, somebody told me I should audition for Clara and I said I only wanted to be the Rat King, because I wanted to be the more interesting character. I wanted to be the one that nobody liked,” said Cameron.

“I thought it was easier to be likable and friendly and smile and make everybody feel for you than it was to make an evil character relatable.”

“I’ve always wanted to take the more challenging roles and this was definitely one of those.”

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Another Wet Hot American Summer

INTERVIEW

Happy campers: Cult hit creators reminisce



Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

One of the more intriguing entries in Netflix's new, ever-growing roster of original series is *Wet Hot American Summer*, a prequel to the cult classic comedy from MTV's *The State* alumni David Wain and Michael Showalter — and featuring a before-they-were-stars cast including the likes of Bradley Cooper, Paul Rudd and Amy Poehler.

Were there any reservations about doing a prequel with the same actors almost 15 years later?

Michael Showalter: No, that was an asset. In our mind that was part of the fun of it; the joke being we were too old then, we're way too old now, and instead of making our char-

acters older, we made them younger.

David Wain: It's surprising how much you stop paying attention to it.

MS: One of the big movies from our childhood was *Grease*, with John Travolta and Olivia Newton John, who are playing high school ... seniors. They're fully adult in that movie. That was sort of our inspiration casting-wise.

How much have you paid attention to the film's fans and what they would expect to learn if you're exploring more of these characters?

DW: To me, I don't think we're serving the fans per se, but I do think we are very caring of this group of characters as fans ourselves in a way.

It's very important to us to make something that satisfies the fans' desire for more, while at the same time not doing any sort of retreat.

What about the new additions to the cast?

DW: Jason Schwartzman plays one of the head counsellors. Lake Bell plays (Showalter's character) Coop's girlfriend who just got back from a trip



The cast of the Netflix original series *Wet Hot American Summer: First Day Of Camp*. HANDOUT

to Israel.

We have Michael Cera and John Hamm and Chris Pine all playing roles that are too surprising to tell you more about.

We have Michaela Watkins playing a choreographer for the big musical. John Slattery

is playing the guest director of the musical.

Kristen Wiig, Josh Charles, even I make an appearance as an Israeli counsellor who poses a threat to Coop.

MS: David's character and my character and Lake Bell's char-

acter are in a love triangle.

Without getting into actual figures, how did the budget for this compare to the original film?

DW: I think it was \$75 million per episode.

MS: We had Avengers-type numbers. It was an embarrassment of budget. It was so much budget that were just giving people bags of money on the way out.

DW: Basically when you had lunch on set, you could have brownies or you could have Arnold Palmers or just a bag of money. Or all three if you want, if you're that hungry.

That sounds delicious.

DW: Basically the process of doing it was very similar to the original movie, even though in some ways it's obviously different. We're 15 years older and a million things have happened in our careers, but the actual going back to it was like a total mind-trip.

MS: We didn't sleep in bunks. When we made the original, we slept in bunks.

DW: Yeah, we slept in the cabins and ate the camp food.

MS: Well, eventually we stopped eating camp food.

DW: On the original movie the camp cooks made the food for the crew, but it was so bad that even our low-budget, young, hungry crew was like ...

MS: "I can't eat this."

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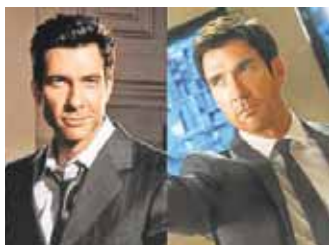
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7 CELEBRITIES WHO HAVEN'T AGED A DAY

We now have the fifth installment of Mission Impossible, the first having come out nearly two decades ago (1996), and Tom Cruise still looks the same. It appears Ethan Hunt's IMF agent operative duty also included protecting the secret fountain of youth... We've compiled a list of celebs who look as fresh-faced in HD as they did back when. **MATT PRIGGE/METRO NEW YORK**



Dylan McDermott, 53

The American Horror Story actor is another who mysteriously hasn't aged.

For that matter, neither has Dermot Mulroney, 51, the actor with whom he's linked in name and general matinee idol-ness. They should play brothers.



Julia Louis-Dreyfus, 54

Recently the Seinfeld and Veep god played herself on the Amy Schumer Show sketch, ringing in, with Patricia Arquette and Tina Fey, her "Last F—able Day." One of the jokes is that the only thing about her that has changed is her hair.



Pharrell, 42

We're really not sure what to say here that we haven't already said about others. He just doesn't look 42, or that much different than in the early N.E.R.D. days.



Halle Berry, 48

Her acting work is a bit checkered — she's done plenty of bad films, though her true best work isn't in Monster's Ball but in Boomerang, back in 1992 — but Berry has looked just about the same since her first film appearance.

Her debut, in fact, was as an addict in Spike Lee's Jungle Fever, which is about as dishevelled as she's ever been onscreen, which is to say not very.



Paul Rudd, 46

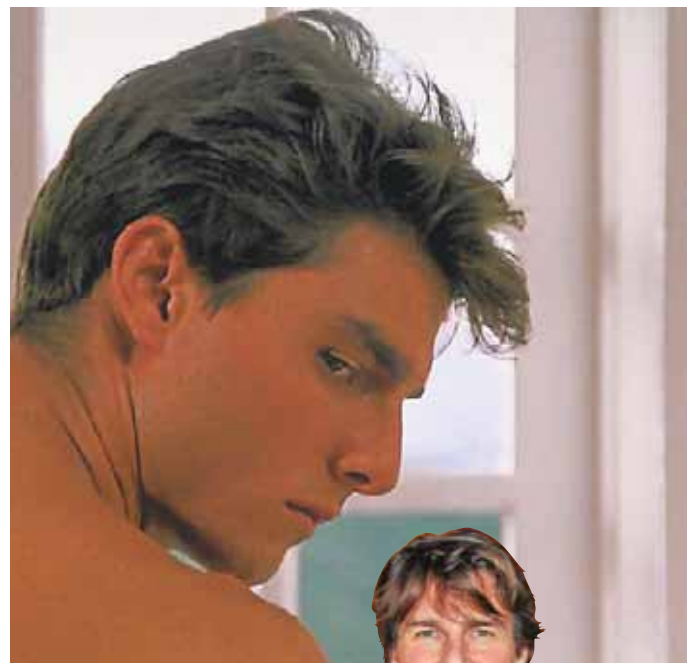
Rudd isn't that old, but he still looks pretty much the same as he did 20 years ago in Clueless, his film debut.

It isn't just that his looks haven't changed; he has that same youthful archness — that quality of being self-aware enough to be funny without tumbling into bitter parody. Alicia Silverstone could have bagged any rent-a-hunk for her first romantic lead. Instead she got someone cool, who would stand the test of time, in more ways than one.



Sandra Bullock, 50

In an industry that chucks its female stars when they start getting up in years, Bullock has remained at the forefront, in part because she doesn't look close to her age. That's in temperament too. Even moreso than Julia Roberts, she's still able to bust out the excitable, panicky-giggly shtick that made her big in Speed and While You Were Sleeping, be it in a comedy like The Heat or the way she freaks out through most of Gravity.



Tom Cruise, 53

The heir apparent to Dick Clark's secret, Tom Cruise can still pass for an action god well into his 50s while performing his own stunts — this, despite being older than Wilford Brimley was when he made Cocoon. (In fairness, Brimley has looked like an old coot since his 40s.)

Part of it is fitness, part is an inhuman drive; keep yourself fit and lightning-bolt committed — and have untold millions — and you too can look forever young.



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Arctic for geeks



A two-week expedition cruise up the coast of Newfoundland and Labrador into northern Quebec offered sweeping vistas as well as cultural and artistic programming. PHOTOS BY JENNIFER FODEN

CRUISE

Travelling remote terrain with authors, artists and culturalists

Jennifer Foden
For Metro

"Hi, Ms. Atwood?" I nervously said, interrupting the Canadian literary icon's walk along the Saint Pierre coastline with her partner, novelist Graeme Gibson. "I'm a huge fan of your work."

Meeting the literary power couple wasn't by chance: We were all travelling on board the Ocean Endeavour, a small cruise ship of 198 passengers.

The vessel is operated by Adventure Canada, a Mississauga, Ont.-based company, which focuses on reaching wilderness destinations in the Arctic and beyond.

Our trip started that day on the French island of Saint Pierre, 275 kilometres southwest of St. John's. The boat then began its journey up the western coast of Newfoundland, followed by the eastern edge of Labrador, allowing passengers to stop and explore Inuit communities like Rose Blanche and Nain, and hike striking landscapes such as Gros Morne and the Torngat Mountains National Parks. The journey would end travelling into Ungava Bay to Nunavik in northern Quebec.

While exploring the Arctic (spotting wildlife and icebergs, reaching remote landscapes via 10-person Zodiac boats) is why many people travel



with Adventure Canada, what really won me over was all the cultural and artistic programming on board. When not exploring the outdoors, guests can attend everything from photography workshops and naturalist talks to book clubs and musical concerts.

My two-week expedition not only welcomed special guests Margaret Atwood



and Graeme Gibson, but several notable staff who helped deliver this programming, such as Billy Gautier, an Inuit carver, whose exhibition at the Spirit Wrestler Gallery in Vancouver sold out in 18 minutes; and John Bailey, from Google, who walked the terrain we visited with a Street View camera on his back, visually

mapping places that are largely inaccessible. The book nerd in me rejoiced again when I met Terry Fallis, author of *The Best Laid Plans*, who has twice won the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour. There were Inuit culturalists, Arctic explorers, artists and more.

However, it was more than just the staff and special guests

who had something to say.

An expedition cruise with programming such as this attracts passengers that are like-minded, those interested in wildlife, the outdoors, photography, exploration, literature, culture, history and more.

You'd share conversations at meals and on Zodiacs with remarkable people from around the globe.

A fellow passenger referenced the atmosphere on board as a Floating TED Talk; someone else fittingly dubbed it the Arctic for geeks.

The writer was a guest of Adventure Canada and Newfoundland & Labrador Tourism. Neither reviewed nor approved the story.



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NATURE

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ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie

With a little more than a month of glorious summer left, I urge everyone to hit our great outdoors. According to the 2015 North American Camping Report, an independent study supported by Kampgrounds of America Inc. (KOA), camping has made a comeback.

The fall in gas prices has resulted in people taking more road trips and those same people are spending more nights camping while they travel. Among campers who said that decreased gas prices would impact this year's travel plans, 88 per cent say it would allow them to camp more often and 86 per cent were planning to visit new campgrounds. As well, 72 per cent of Canadian

campers surveyed said they intended to visit a provincial park this summer.

If you are curious what nature has to offer, here are a few things to bear mind as you ponder a trip to the great outdoors.

Don't forget the Wi-Fi

You do not have to give up all of your creature comforts. More and more campgrounds, whether privately or publicly owned, offer a handful of campsites for the comfort camper, often complete with a proper bed and linens, chairs, lights, pots and pans and some sort of semi-permanent roof over your head.

Whether they are called yurts, round tent-like structures, or oTENTiks, Parks Canada's cross between an A-frame cabin and a prospector tent, most campgrounds offer an option for those reluctant to rough it.

Although traditionalists may prefer to be off the grid, campgrounds are starting to recognize that doesn't work for everyone.

The KOA study reports that when selecting which campgrounds to visit and stay at, free Wi-Fi ranks as the third-most important amenity, just behind clean bathrooms and a kid-friendly environment. Younger campers say having access to their smartphone is almost as important as toilet paper.

Camping will reduce your stress and improve your family relationships. A third of campers say that camping has a positive impact on their relationships with family and friends and their emotional well-being.

Setting up your tent and prepping meals is an adventure all members of the family can share, and sleeping outside, especially if it's for the first time, is exhilarating.

All it takes to have a successful camping vacation is a little planning. Parks Canada has a great checklist app that includes safety tips, recipes and first-timer advice.

88%

Among campers who said that decreased gas prices would impact this year's travel plans, 88 per cent say it would allow them to camp more often.



Kampgrounds of America sites in Niagara Falls, top, and the Thousand Islands. COURTESY KOA CANADA

TRAVEL NOTES

Extend the summer

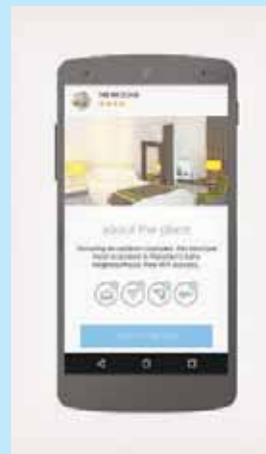
Iberostar Hotels & Resorts is having a sale for a limited time, with all-inclusive stays in Mexico, Dominican Republic and Jamaica on sale from about \$85 per person per night if you book before Aug. 10 for travel between Aug. 16 and Oct. 31. Go to Montego Bay, Playa del Carmen, Playa Paraíso, Playa Bávaro and more. Visit Iberostar.com.



Iberostar Cozumel, Mexico.
DOUG WALLACE

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Scarpetta at Fontainebleau Miami Beach. CONTRIBUTED



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HEALTH & WELLNESS

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It's just like riding a bike. Except, if you're new to cycling, that might sound more daunting than it really is.

With all the talk of cycle tracks and the increasing amount of pathways available to users, more people than ever are picking up cycling as a hobby and we have a few tips from the experts for those who are just getting started.

First of all, it's important to figure out if you want to be more of a weekend warrior on the mountains and hills or a commuter on the city's pathways and cycling networks, according to Toronto Bike Network technical director



SHUTTERSTOCK

Ken Miller.

"Because there are so many different types of bikes to choose from, it's important to figure out what type of bike riding you want to do and tailor your bike to your needs," Miller ex-

plains. Mountain bikes for example generally are heavier with larger frames and bigger tires and feature suspension systems while road bikes are usually smaller, lighter and faster.

Regardless of the type of cycling you choose

to do, Miller recommends easing into it.

"I think the biggest mistake people make is rush into it and try to do too much at once and not allow their bodies to get conditioned to biking," he says.

Miller says it takes about a month for your body to really get conditioned to the mechanics of biking and he suggests starting out with just 5 to 8 km bike rides the first week, easing into 12 to 15 kilometres rides the second week.

"After a month you'll really be able to tell if biking is for you or not."

Calgary's The Bike Shop associate Travis Ferguson says it's also important that cyclists get properly equipped with a helmet and a bike tune up before doing any serious cycling.

"It's good just to make sure your bike is in working order and that you have the proper gear for the conditions," Ferguson adds.

And Ferguson agrees, there's a bike for everybody out there, people just have to figure out which one is right for them.

"It really depends on your needs and wants and what you want to get out of it," Ferguson says, adding there are many resources online and at most bike shops for first timers.

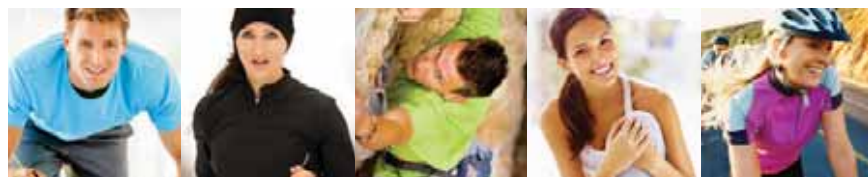
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Gimbel Eye Centre sees 50th year of service

World class quality service is the key to success for the Gimbel Eye Centre, who is celebrating 50 years of providing quality eye service to clients in Calgary and Edmonton.

As the Gimbel Eye Centre celebrates the special milestone, they plan to remain a leader in the provision of safe, high-quality and cost-effective eye surgery, according to manager Gregg Becker, who says the special feat is the result of world class customer service and innovation.

"Our surgeons began practicing in the areas of cataract and refractive laser surgery when the field was relatively new, and are well known world-wide as innovators in surgical practice," he says, adding that the teams combine for over 500 years of experience. "In fact, procedures they pioneered are now common across the industry."

With surgeons operating most days in both the Calgary and Edmonton centres, patients can generally get in for Lasik and other refractive procedures in a timely fashion.

"Gimbel uses only the most current all-laser technologies providing the safest results and great vision at prices that are always competitive. We're committed to a thorough assessment process, taking the time and assessments needed to ensure they provide the best options for our



SHUTTERSTOCK

patients."

The range of treatments are particularly wide, meaning clients will often have more than one potential treatment option and can choose what best suits their needs.

Please visit gimbel.com for information.

Take steps to ensure your feet are aligned

CBC Foot Products help with discomfort

Many people don't realize that the pain they feel in their knees, hips, or back could actually be due to their feet and the remedy lies in orthotics.

It's not uncommon for people to feel nagging aches and pains in their body, which can be attributed to an imbalance in their feet, according to CBC Foot Products founder Lance Colins, who has been in the foot care business for more than 30 years.

"Living with aches and pain in your body can really interfere with your everyday life and lifestyle, and that's why we're here to let people know there could be a simple solution that doesn't include the use of drugs or surgery," Colins explains.

"Nothing is worse than feeling great emotionally and wanting to take in all life has to offer only to have your enthusiasm and drive squashed because your feet, leg, knee and back pain won't go away."

And those types of pains are quite common and strike thousands of Canadians each year, often interfering with their quality of life and enjoyment of everyday activities. That's why CBC Foot Products offers a lifetime warranty on all of their products and services with the purchase of orthotics.

"We feel very passionately about helping people find the root cause of their pain and helping them find relief from that pain," Colins adds. "While we're not doctors, we are common sense health professionals and if we can't help them with orthotics, we can give them our personal opinion in some other options. We don't diagnose, we analyse. We don't prescribe, we suggest."

CBC Foot Products provides three simple but accurate steps to provide patients with a comfortable, corrective and functional orthotic by carefully assessing each patient



CONTRIBUTED

to get to know them and their pain-related issues. Then they begin testing using their high-tech equipment and after the testing is over, the Shoemate® orthotic is then fabricated for the patient.

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TO BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT

Content Solutions

David makes Jays Goliath

MLB

Jays acquire Price in second blockbuster trade of week

When the Toronto Blue Jays could put ace Roy Halladay on the mound every fifth day, Alex Anthopoulos recalled then-general manager J.P. Ricciardi saying that alone made them a great team.

Already believing these Blue Jays are a good team, Anthopoulos on Thursday filled their biggest need by trading for star left-handed pitcher David Price. Left-handed pitching prospects Daniel Norris, Matt Boyd and Jairo Labourt went to the Detroit Tigers.

It didn't matter that the price was three prospects, including the top one in the organization, or that Price is a free agent after the season. Anthopoulos believes Price is the No. 1 starter Toronto hasn't had since Halladay.

"Getting guys like Price, that type of impact, those (No.) 1 starters, they can make you a great team all by themselves," Anthopoulos said at a news conference. "It's more a reflection on the belief of the guys we have right now, what we have on the roster. We think we're a good team, and adding a guy like Price we think makes us that much stronger and will give us a chance to win."

With the Blue Jays entering play on Thursday two games back of the Minnesota Twins

+

THE NUMBERS

\$19,750,000: Price's salary for 2015

0: Years left on Price's contract

9-4: Price's record

2.53: Price's ERA

7-0: Price's career record at the Rogers Centre

16-2: Price's career record vs. Toronto

5: All-star game appearances

12: Likely 2015 starts left

7*: Games behind Yankees

13: Games left vs. Yankees

2*: Games behind wild card

13: Games left vs. teams ahead of them in the wild-card race

*Stats prior to games on Thursday
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

for the second American League wild card, they may suddenly be favourites to make the playoffs with Price. He is an all-star who won the AL Cy Young Award in 2012 with the Tampa Bay Rays.

The 29-year-old is 9-4 this season with a 2.53 earned-run average. In his major-league career, Price is 95-55 with a 3.13 ERA and 1,285 strikeouts in 1,367-1/3 innings, including a 7-0 record at Rogers Centre.

For the next two months Price headlines a rotation that includes R.A. Dickey, Drew Hutchison, Mark Buehrle and Marco Estrada. He's on rotation to start as soon as Sunday against the Kansas City Royals but could also pitch Monday against the Twins.



David Price could make his first start for the Blue Jays as early as Sunday. JASON MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

This trade came in the same week as the Blue Jays traded for shortstop Troy Tulowitzki and reliever LaTroy Hawkins. While Tulowitzki is signed to a long-term deal, Price is a rental player who will command a hefty salary this off-season.

Price, who was traded from the Rays to the Tigers at the deadline a year ago, is making \$19.75 million US in the final year of his contract. Anthopoulos said he was not yet dwelling on the possibility of re-signing Price, which could be a difficult task.

"I think every team in baseball would love to have this guy on their team long term," he said. "We've just got to get in the line." THE CANADIAN PRESS

≡

IN BRIEF

Latos joins Dodgers in 13-player trade

The first-place Los Angeles Dodgers have bolstered their pitching staff, acquiring Mat Latos from the Miami Marlins and Alex Wood, Jim Johnson and Luis Avilan from the Atlanta Braves in a 13-player deal.

The rebuilding Braves also gave up top infield prospect Jose Peraza, paying a hefty price largely to land 30-year-old Cuban infielder Hector Olivera at a steep discount. Atlanta also got left-handed reliever Paco Rodriguez and minor-league pitcher Zachary Bird from Los Angeles.

Los Angeles also acquired first baseman Michael Morse from Miami and injured pitcher Bronson Arroyo from the Braves.

Miami got three minor leaguers from the Dodgers and sent a draft pick to Atlanta. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gomez dealt to Astros

The Astros have added another bat to their lineup as they make a push for the post-season, acquiring two-time All-Star outfielder Carlos Gomez from the Milwaukee Brewers.

Houston, which also received right-hander Mike Fiers in the deal, sent four prospects to the Brewers: left-hander Josh Hader, right-hander Adrian Houser and outfielders Brett Phillips and Domingo Santana. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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The famed Copacabana beach in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil will host Olympic beach volleyball, cycling, open water swimming and triathlon next summer. MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES

Rio water under fire

SUMMER OLYMPICS

Beaches awash with viruses, bacteria, finds investigation

The waters where Olympians will compete in swimming and boating events next summer in South America's first Games are rife with human sewage and present a serious health risk for athletes, as well as for visitors to the iconic beaches of Rio de Janeiro.

An Associated Press investigation found dangerously high levels of viruses and bacteria from sewage in venues where athletes will compete in the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic water sports, though an Olympic official said Thursday there are no plans to press for authorities to monitor for viruses, which many experts consider the biggest problem.

In the first independent comprehensive testing for both viruses and bacteria at

the Olympic sites, the AP conducted four rounds of tests starting in March. The results have alarmed international experts and dismayed competitors training in Rio, some of whom have already fallen ill with fevers, vomiting and diarrhea.

These ailments could knock an athlete out for days, potentially curtailing Olympic dreams and years of hard training.

"This is by far the worst water quality we've ever seen in our sailing careers," said Ivan Bulaja, a coach for the Austrian team, which has spent months training on the Guanabara Bay. "I am quite sure if you swim in this water and it goes into your mouth or nose that quite a lot of bad things are coming inside your body."

Water pollution has long plagued Brazil's urban areas, where most sewage isn't collected, let alone treated. In Rio, much of the waste runs through open-air ditches to fetid streams and rivers that feed the Olympic water sites and blight the city's picture postcard beaches.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOCCER

Drogba focused on fitting in with Impact

There's no question that Montreal soccer fans count Didier Drogba as a superstar.

The former Chelsea striker was met with chants and long applause at a news conference attended by media and hundreds of the MLS club's fans at Saputo Stadium on Thursday night.

He donned the No. 11 shirt, which was given up by midfielder Dilly Duka for the team's new marquee player.

Drogba will meet his new

teammates on Friday, but will need time to train with them and work on his conditioning before he can play in a match.

For now, he just wants to fit into his new team.

"I wasn't a superstar before I joined big teams like Marseille and Chelsea and the others so I know how it feels," he said. "A superstar is just the way people look at you, but in the dressing room you're the same...."

All I can try to do is give back

to those players who want to learn and I think I am also going to learn from them."

The 37-year-old, who scored 164 goals while helping Chelsea to four Premier League titles, is the biggest name ever to join the Impact and his presence is certain to help the club on the field and in ticket sales. His arrival at Trudeau Airport on Wednesday drew a huge throng of dancing and chanting fans.

Drogba said positive reviews

from Chelsea players helped in his decision, as did talks with former Impact defender Alessandro Nesta, the ex-Italy and A.C. Milan defender.

Drogba who grew up in France and Ivory Coast also liked coming to a mostly French speaking city.

"I was impressed by what my teammates said and by my talks with the team president (Joey Saputo) and the welcome the fans gave me," said Drogba.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Flyers extend Voracek's contract, time undisclosed
The Philadelphia Flyers and right wing Jakub Voracek have agreed to a multiyear contract extension.

Terms of the deal weren't disclosed Thursday.

The 25-year-old Voracek had 22 goals last season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Habs sign Galchenyuk

The Montreal Canadiens have agreed to terms on a two-year deal with forward Alex Galchenyuk.

Galchenyuk will count \$2.8 million US against the salary cap each of the next two seasons, according to multiple reports.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RECIPE Rose's Brownie and Frozen Yogurt Sandwiches



EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com

[@rosereisman](https://twitter.com/rosereisman)



Ready in

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 12 minutes

Makes 12 half servings.

Ingredients

- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 cup low-fat yogurt or sour cream
- 1/4 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 1/2 cup vanilla frozen yogurt, softened
- 1 1/2 cup chocolate frozen yogurt, softened
- Chocolate Glaze
- 1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup 2% evaporated milk

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Spray a large 6 cup (4-inch wide) muffin tin with vegetable oil. Combine sugar, oil, egg, vanilla and cocoa powder and mix until smooth. Add flour, baking powder, yogurt and chips and mix just until combined, don't overmix. Divide into large muffin tin and bake for 12 minutes or just until no longer wet. Cool. Place 1/4 cup softened frozen vanilla frozen yogurt on top of muffin along with 1/4 cup chocolate frozen yogurt.
2. Melt chocolate and evaporated milk on high for approx. 30 seconds. Whisk until smooth. Cool. (If too thick, add more evaporated milk.) Pour over top of frozen yogurt. Top with coloured sprinkles. Freeze until serving.
3. With a wet knife, gently remove brownies from tray. Slice in half.

Nutrition per half serving

- Calories 190
- Carbohydrates 20 g
- Total fat 7.5 g
- Cholesterol 19 mg

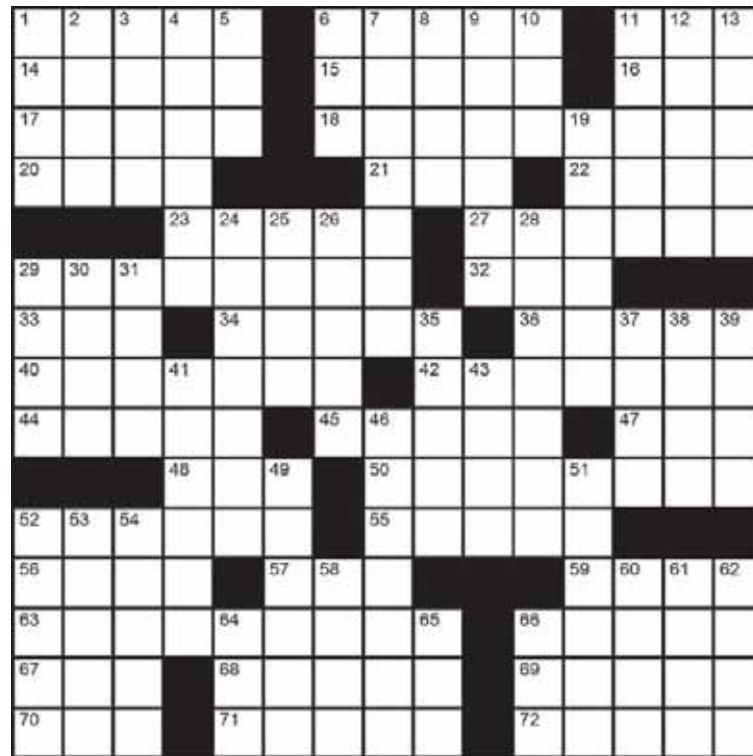
PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Kilt-wearer's dance
6. Fearing-one's suffix
11. Intl. clock standard
14. Hawaiian-style veranda
15. Glass: French
16. Whopper
17. Squirrel's prize
18. Heavy pole event at #63-Across: 2 wds.
20. Madonna's first hubby's surname
21. Dog's physician, commonly
22. Aid and _
23. Basket-making fibre
27. Cantankerous
29. Go-Go's water skiing video hit
32. Mr. Beatty
33. Baffin, e.g.
34. By _ _ (How close races are won)
36. "...at 'em!"
40. Scottish Highland kilt pouch
42. Twinkle
44. Up to now: 2 wds.
45. Smooth transition
47. Watering _ (Gardener's prop)
48. Matterhorn, for one
50. Ontario village (southeast of Ottawa) where #63-Across is held each summer
52. Silent movie's in-distress role
55. German Shep-



herd or Labrador
56. Odd mixture
57. Writer Ms. LeShan
59. Red-wax covered cheese
63. July 31st to August 1st, 2015: _ High-land Games

66. Canadian sweets shop, _ Secord
67. Mr. Somerhalder
68. Accepted practice
69. Venerated villager
70. Nav. desig-

nation
71. Attach a patch: 2 wds.
72. Analyze

DOWN

1. Envelope part
2. Wedding gown trim

3. Aware of, as a surprise: 2 wds.
4. C.S. Lewis fantasy land
5. _ and tonic
6. _ _ piping
7. Angelic abodes
8. "...there _ square."

9. Cape Island link
10. 'Musket' suffix
11. Shakespeare's _ (Playhouse for The Bard's works)
12. Scrooge
13. Petulant
19. Two-seated bicycle
24. Shake up
25. Ms. Yothers of "Family Ties"
26. Common _ (Birds on Canadian dollar coins)
28. Alleviate
29. Traveler's documentation
30. Snake sorts
31. Be overly sweet
35. Actress Samantha of 1967 movie musical "Doctor Dolittle"
37. Gladiator's 2150
38. The Food Network creation
39. Coastal bird, variantly
41. Cause
43. Sumptuous
46. Trade blockade
49. Courteous word
51. Epitomes
52. Stray calf [var. sp.]
53. Edgar Poe link
54. Demeanors
58. Attraction
60. Lemons/turkeys
61. Region
62. Peter, Paul & _
64. Paul Simon song line: "Hop on the bus, _."
65. Hankering
66. Pastureland

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Be careful how you react to criticism today. If you let your enemies see that your feelings are hurt they will go out of their way to hurt you further. Pretend that you are not the slightest bit bothered.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You find it hard to be modest, but today you would be wise not to draw attention to your superiority because there is something you have missed that could make you look very silly.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
The best way to get over your negative mood is to throw yourself into an activity that you enjoy. It doesn't have to be important, just something that takes your mind off your worries.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You want to speak your mind today, but be warned: you could be the one who is the topic of conversation if you stray from the facts. What others say won't be pleasant.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is not a good time to say or do anything that might meet the disapproval of people in power. Yes, there are facts that need to be looked at but don't make a big deal of it.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you tread on someone's toes today the consequences could be painful for both of you! Minor differences could escalate quite rapidly into major disputes, so steer clear of people who offend easily.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The most important thing now is that you act as if you care, even if you don't. Others are counting on you to raise their spirits and if you are as nice a person as they say you are you will tell them what they need to hear.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You are never afraid to be controversial but today there is a danger that you will go too far and make an enemy of someone powerful. You may be brave, but ask yourself: is it worth the hassle?

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Don't neglect the needs of those you love in your haste to make a name for yourself on the work front. You could all too easily turn people against you.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If you help someone today they will repay the favour later, when you are the one in need. In a nutshell: be kind to others and they will more likely be kind to you.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The time has come to end some kind of partnership. It won't be easy but you know it must be done. In the long-term it will be good for you both.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You must be honest with yourself about what you want and what you have to do to get it. And if you come to the conclusion that the price is too high then lower your sights and aim for something less demanding.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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JESUS IS THE WAY

There are two ways: The world's way and Jesus' way. The world's way is characterized by selfishness and has the erroneous idea of grabbing from others as the only way to make progress. While Jesus' way is perfect, points to love for others as a condition to progress in life. God said, "Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had." (Philippians 2:3-5 NLT) Remember in all this Jesus holds all the answers. Make Him your Lord today.

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43 YEARSBOB COLEMAN
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SALES MANAGER
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10 YEARSAHMED MAWQOUF
8 YEARSPHIL LAWRENCE
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11 YEARSJIM HARRISON
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